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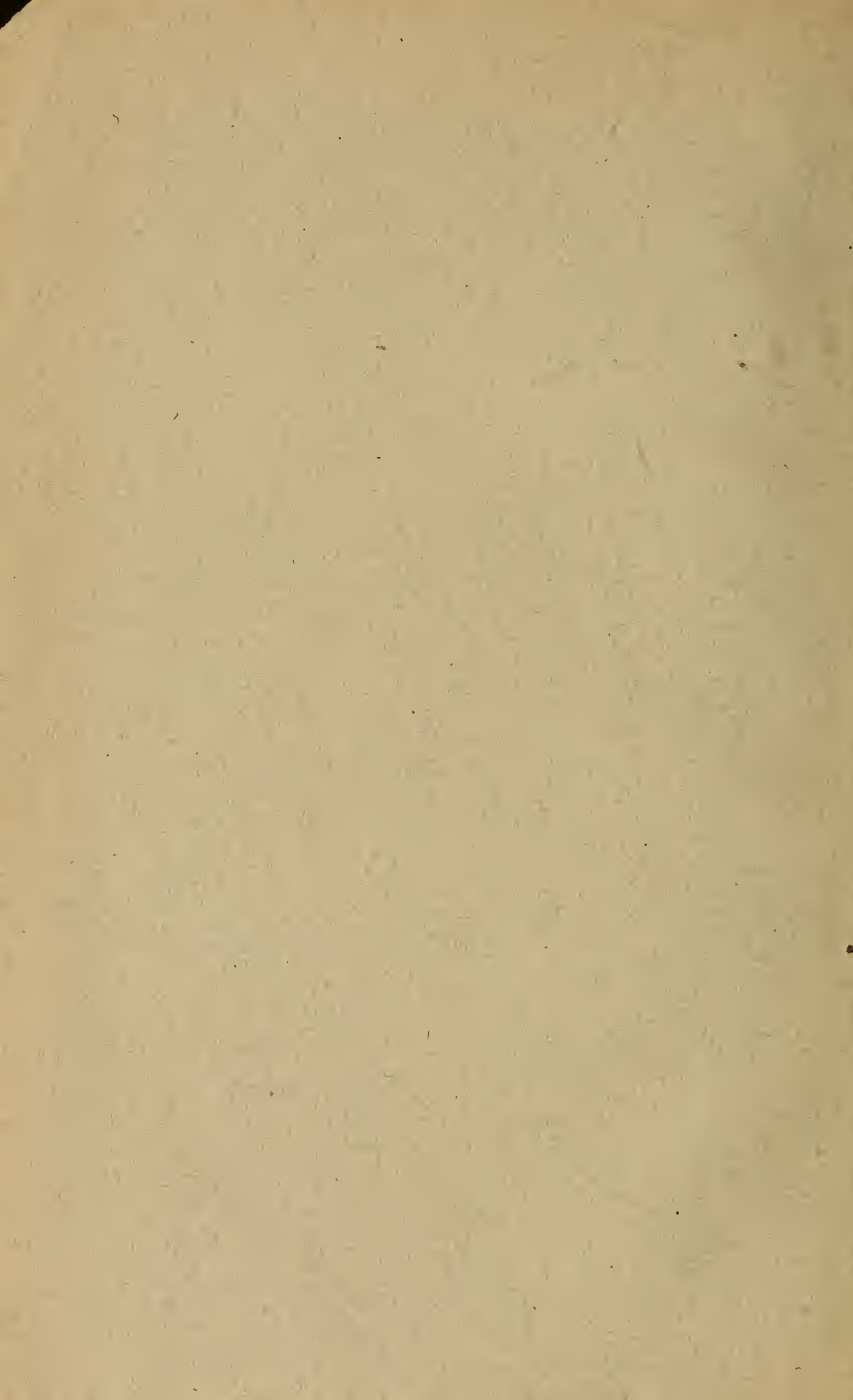
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# GENEALOGY

OF THE

## TENNEY FAMILY,

*#4335. 74*

MORE PARTICULARLY OF THE FAMILY OF

DANIEL TENNEY, AND SYLVIA KENT, HIS WIFE,

*Late of Laporte, Lorain County, Ohio,*

From 1634 and 1638 to 1875.

*With Tenney's, 1875*  
*and Kent Family*

COMPILED BY EGRACE A. TENNEY.

MADISON, WIS.

M. J. CANTWELL, BOOK AND JOB PRINTER, KING ST.

1875.

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Having spent most of our lives in the West, away from relatives and the land of our ancestors, of whom, till lately, we have known but little, it has seemed to us a proper thing, and a fitting time, to gather together such facts and recollections as are attainable in regard to our family, for the information of the various members thereof, who have now become numerous and widely scattered; and this volume is the result. It is a private affair exclusively, and of no interest to any but our kind. The whole work has been prepared and arranged by H. A., except what relates to H. W. and D. K. and their families.

H. A. TENNEY,  
H. W. TENNEY,  
D. K. TENNEY.

*July, 1875.*





# THE TENNEY FAMILY.

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## ANCESTRAL RECORD.

The TENNEY FAMILY is one of the oldest in America, as is conclusively established not only by tradition, but by personal and historical evidence.

The Pilgrim Fathers landed at Plymouth, New England, on the 22d of December, 1620. Eighteen years later, the first member of the family, THOMAS TENNEY, and his wife ANN landed at Salem, having come over with a party of twenty families, in charge of Rev. Ezekiel Rodgers, to found a colony in the wilderness; and, after time taken to select a suitable locality, in April, 1639, in company with another brother, WILLIAM, and wife, who had joined them, and some forty additional newly arrived families, commenced a settlement in the town of Rowley, Essex County, about sixteen miles from the port at which they had first landed.

All descendants of the name, so far as known, are the offspring of THOMAS, and those who succeeded him, WILLIAM having left no male children.

For the period of over a century, there is difficulty in tracing the line of descent, growing out of a failure of some of the towns to preserve their records.

The town of Rowley was divided in the year 1675, leaving a part of the TENNEYS in the new subdivision of Bradford, from whom our family descended. Amid Indian wars, French wars, and the stirring events of the Revolution, the wonder is not that some traces are lost, but that so much was preserved.

In preparing this work, I have found it necessary, to illustrate the family history, to refer briefly to some of the leading historical events cotemporaneous with the earlier generations, in which they necessarily took some part. In tracing the family career, I have in all important cases referred to the authority upon which the statement is based, in order to avoid doubt or dis-

pute, down to about the year 1800, since which time, unless during the war of 1812, there are but few historical references to be made, and the sketch of the person will contain all that is thought needful to record. This is not done in any spirit of vain-glory, but as due to the past, and the perfection of a work, which it is hoped may transmit the information it contains to future generations in our line.

## THE FIRST TENNEY FAMILIES IN AMERICA.

The record in America begins with the following:

THOMAS TENNEY of Rowley, Yorkshire County, England, was born in 1601. In 1638, accompanied by his wife, ANN, he emigrated to the province of Massachusetts, with a party of twenty other families, in charge of Rev. Ezekiel Rodgers, who in 1639 commenced the settlement of the town of Rowley, Essex County, Massachusetts.\*

His brother, WILLIAM TENNEY, and his wife KATHARINE, came over the next year, (1639) and settled in the same place. As these parents had but one son, SAMUEL, who died Aug. 1st, 1660, at the age of ten years, thus preventing any transmission of the name, the descent of all of the family on the continent is derived from THOMAS and his wife. WILLIAM had five daughters, three of whom, married, and one unmarried, survived him. His name during his generation often appears on the records of the town. He died at Rowley, Aug. 5th, 1685.

All who bear the name in America, as has been before remarked, are descendants from THOMAS.

His family was composed of the following children:

JOHN TENNEY, born at Rowley, Massachusetts, Dec., 4, 1640.

HANNAH TENNEY, born at Rowley, Mass., Mar., 15, 1642.

MARY TENNEY, born at Rowley, Mass., June 17, 1644.

THOMAS TENNEY, born at Rowley, Mass., Mar. 16, 1648.

JAMES TENNEY, born at Rowley, Mass., Mar. 15, 1650.

DANIEL TENNEY, born at Rowley, Mass., Mar. 16, 1653.

ANN, the mother, wife of THOMAS, died in Rowley, Sept. 26, 1657. He

\*"Genealogy of the Tenney Family," prepared by Rev. C. J. Tenney, D. D., 1845; revised by Jonathan Tenney, Boston, 1851. See, also, "History of Rowley," by Thomas Gage, published in Boston, 1840, page 120, for fuller details of this first colony.

NOTE.—After diligent examination of all known records, I find none of the name of TENNEY landed at any port in the provinces, or settled in any of the towns, other than the families of THOMAS and WILLIAM; nor is it known that any of the name since 1639, have emigrated to America.

The family name was not always spelled alike by our ancestors. In most cases it is written Tenny or Tenney, as at present. In others it appears to have been written Tenne, and in one case Tennee.

then married ELIZABETH PARROTT, Feb. 24, 1658, but it does not appear that they had children. The date of death of the second wife has not come down to us.

From this time the record becomes in part obscure.

In its proper place, all that is known up to about the year 1800, will be found in succeeding pages, preliminary to which, a brief historical sketch, with family references, seems eminently proper to be given.

### THE FIRST KENT FAMILIES IN AMERICA.

The KENT family, from which our mother descended, as will be seen in its proper place, is even older in its date of settlement in America, than the TENNEY. Two original emigrants—probably cousins—both of the same christian and surname, came over in the same ship, landing in Ipswich, in 1634, but settling in Newbury, Massachusetts, from whence their descendants spread to various points; the branch from which we trace our ancestry, settling in Suffield, Hartford County, Connecticut, in about two generations after the first arrival. All the historical evidence cited to illustrate cotemporaneous events in the TENNEY family history, is equally applicable to our mother's ancestry. They were in the country before the Pequot war, which ended in the extermination of that tribe. The TENNEYS landed the year the conflict closed.

The following facts in relation to the first emigrants of the KENT family, will not be esteemed out of place in this connection. They are taken from the "Genealogical Dictionary of New England," published in 1861; and the "New England Historical and Genealogical Register," published in 1848, and are stated in their briefest form, leaving explanations, if any, to their proper place in this volume.

RICHARD KENT emigrated from England, to Ipswich, Massachusetts, in 1634, in company with another of the same christian and surname, (perhaps a cousin,) in the "good shipp Mary and John."\* The first named was made a "freeman" March 4, 1634, and removed to Newbury, among the first settlers, the same year. He left behind in England, SARAH and other daughters, of whom one, REBECCA, had married Samuel Scollard, and, after his death, she came over, and, perhaps, brought a daughter, MARY, who married John Rolfe, Dec. 4, 1656. The mother, SARAH, married John Bishop in October, 1647. He died June 11, 1654.

\*The passenger list of the Mary and John was certified by the authorities of London England, March 24, 1633. Robert Sayres was master or captain of the vessel. (Geneal. Reg. N. E., Vol. IV, p. 267.)



The other RICHARD KENT, (supposed cousin,) and his wife JANE, who came over in the same ship, settled in Newbury in 1635. She died June 26, 1674. He then married, January 6, 1675, JOANNA, widow of Nicholas Davidson of Charlestown, and died Nov. 25, 1689, without children; but gave his estate to his nephew John, who was probably a son of the Richard first named.

JOHN KENT of Newbury, was married to Sarah Woodman, Mar. 13, 1666, and had eight children.

JOHN KENT, of Suffield, Connecticut, probably a son of JOHN of Newbury, was married at that place to ABIGAIL, daughter of William Dudley, May 9, 1686. He died April 11, 1721, leaving a wife and ten children. Of these, ELISHA became a minister, and was the father of MOSS, who was father of Hon. JAMES KENT, LL. D., the distinguished jurist, and late Chancellor of New York.

Others of the name emigrated to America at an early period. In the passenger list of the "Plaine Joan," Richard Buckam, Master, which sailed from London, England, May 15, 1635, I find the name of NICHOLAS KENT aged 16, "imbarqued for Virginea," but really landed in Massachusetts. And again, April 11, 1638, in the passenger list of "the good Shipp, the *Confidence*, of London, of 200 tonnes, John Jobson, Master," which sailed "by vertue of the Lord Treasurers warrant," I find the names of STEPHAN KENT, aged 17; MARGURY, his wife, aged 16, and REBECCA KENT, servant, aged 16." (N. E. Hist. and Geneal. Reg., vol. 2, p. 108.) They landed in Massachusetts, probably at Boston.\*

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## THE RECORDS OF ROWLEY.

The first settlers of Plymouth embarked from England, Sept. 6th, 1620, and landed on Forefathers Rock, so called, at Plymouth, New England, Dec. 22d, in the same year. Out of this settlement grew a variety of projects for colonizing the country, and in 1628 a patent was obtained for planting colonies between Massachusetts Bay and Charles River on the south, and the river Merrimack on the north. As early as 1630, sixteen ships were sent out from England to Salem. Various parties followed yearly, notwithstanding all the sufferings and privations of those who first arrived.

In 1638, Rev. Ezekiel Rodgers came with about twenty families. Find-

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\*Previous to 1686 the KENT family seems to have spread rapidly, as I find the names among settlers in Dedham, Charlestown, Gloucester, Brookfield, Ipswich and other places. It seems probable that several families of the name settled in Massachusetts within a few years after the landing of the Pilgrims. They are also found among the earliest settlers in Connecticut and Vermont.



ing the land already occupied in some fourteen or fifteen towns bordering the coast, the winter was spent at Salem, and the time improved in looking up a place for a plantation. Among these twenty families, that of THOMAS TENNEY was "undoubtedly one among them."\*

In April, 1639, Rodgers commenced his settlement "with sixty families."

It is to be presumed that preparation of some kind had previously been made by the first arrivals, for their coming.

The place was at first called "Mr. Rodger's Plantation," but on the 4th of Sept. 1639, it was voted that it should be called Rowley. The settlers are described as "godly men," "most of them of good estate." Rodgers died Jan. 23d, 1660, in his twenty-second year of ministry.

As a measure of safety, the colonists first settled compactly in a village, and, it is to be inferred, improved and cultivated the adjacent lands for some years in common. Three streets were laid out, but no survey of the plat was made until November 1643. The assignments or title of lands made to our ancestors are in the words following:

"On Holmes Streete—To THOMAS TENNEY: One lotte containeinge an acree and an halfe, bounded on the south side by John Haseltine's lotte, and east end by the streete."†

On Same Streete—"To WILLIAM TENNEY an house lot of one acree and an halfe, joining ye South Side of Mark Primes, east end on ye streete, ye southerly side by Thomas Miller's house lotte."

In 1667, "Hog Island Marshes" were laid out and divided to the following among other persons; about twenty acres to each:—THOMAS TENNEY, WILLIAM TENNEY, and Goodwife (ANN) TENNEY.—Hist. p. 150.

Nov. 2d, 1667, the Selectmen met in pursuance of a law of the province, and, among others, appointed THOMAS TENNEY, "to see to it that the Sabbath day is duly observed in town," "and to have special inspection of those families nearest to their house, on either or both sides of them."

To THOMAS TENNEY,—who had also been chosen tythingman—was assigned by virtue of office, "the families of John Scales, Benjamin Scott,

\*"The History of Rowley, anciently including Bradford, Boxford, and Georgetown from the year 1639 to 1840," by Thomas Gage, with proceedings of Second Centennial Celebration anniversary, Sept. 5, 1839. Published in Boston, 1840.

†Each 1½ acre lot, by a later division, called for "1½ gates"—or cow rights in the common pasture. (See Hist. p. 138.) The same sized lot, still later, entitled the party to 67 acres of farm land. From the settlement of the town to 1644, to become a "freeman," each person was "required to be a member in good standing of some Congregational Church."—Hist. of R. p. 153. The rule was then modified by royal orders.

NOTE.—From a tax list, the earliest of record in Rowley, dated June 9, 1691, it appears that the tax of THOMAS TENNEY was £1, 0, 3, and that there were but five or six who paid a greater sum. The list shows that twenty of the original settlers in 1639, were then living. This THOMAS cannot have been the original emigrant as he died in 1661, at the age of 60.—General Reg. Vol. VIII. p. 54.

NOTE.—To avoid repetition, I have made no distinction between the records of Rowley and the towns it was divided into. To have done so would have confused the reader.

John Acie, Mr. Samuel Phillips, Richard Leighton, Edward Hazen, Widow Scott, Mr. Shepard, Nathaniel Elathrop, and Widow Hobson." Hist. p. 152.

"In 1683 there arrived a declaration from King Charles II, with a signification to the country, that, except they should make a full submission and entire resignation of their charter to his pleasure, a *quo warranto* against it should be prosecuted." "The question was offered to Mr. Cotton Mather, whether the country could, without a plain trespass against heaven, do what was demanded of them." His reply demonstrated that they could "neither be good Christians nor true Englishmen, if by any act of theirs, they should be accessory to the plot then managing to procure a general shipwreck of liberties."—Page 157.

In 1686 Sir Edmund Andros arrived in Boston with a commission of arbitrary government over New England and New York, accompanied by about sixty soldiers. He called upon the towns to appoint commissioners to superintend the assessment of taxes granted by him and his council. Rowley, by vote, refused to appoint any such commissioner, and was thereupon fined a large sum, which, however, was not paid.

The accession of James II. to the throne of England about this time, caused great rejoicing in the Colonies, in consequence of his "*Declaration of Indulgence*." The arbitrary acts of Andros had led to open revolution in many places. He was arrested and imprisoned at Boston. Soon after the King recalled him, (in 1689.) Simon Bradstreet was then elected President of the Colonies. Rowley, by unanimous vote, instructed its delegates to meet with his Council, and to "insist on the maintaining of our charter privileges, and continuing an election day according to charter."

In 1692 a new charter was received from the King, and Sir William Phips was by him appointed Governor. He found on his arrival, that the province was in a very distressed condition. Indian war was raging along all the line of frontier settlements. To add to the public misery, the monstrous delusion, known as *Salem Witchcraft*, was at its height, especially throughout the county of Essex. Before this criminal infatuation died out, twenty innocent persons had been put to death, eleven others convicted, and more than fifty had confessed themselves guilty! None of the evidence in any of these cases would be received, even in the humblest justice court, in modern times.

It is a source of gratification to add, that after a complete examination of all the proceedings that have survived, I do not find our family name connected with any of them. Rowley contributed but one victim—Margaret Scott. She was sentenced to death, but finally escaped.

## INDIAN HOSTILITIES AND INDIAN AFFAIRS.

Sept. 1st, 1642, a warrant was issued to Ipswich, Rowley and Newbury, to disarm Passaconamy, who lived near Merrimack river. Forty armed men were sent forth. They captured the chief's son by mistake, but he escaped. Each soldier received a shilling a day for service, but the list is unfortunately lost.

In 1645, an artillery company was organized in these towns, incorporated "to improve in military tactics." The organization was precisely similar to that of the "Ancient and Honorable Artillery Company of Boston," which dates from 1638.

In August, 1653, Indians were reported assembled at Piscataqua. A party of twenty-seven was sent out from Ipswich and Rowley, but it does not appear that anything came of it. The town records do not show thereafter that many of the inhabitants were called to leave their homes on military service until after the commencement of "King Phillip's" War in 1675.

Previous to that event, with slight exceptions, the colonists had enjoyed general peace since the Pequots were exterminated in 1638.

A terrible Indian war now raged all along the frontier settlements. King Phillip was a brave and skillful chief, making a last stand in defence of his country, and, with larger means, might have destroyed every colony in New England. At a battle near Sudbury, Captain Brocklebank, with a company of twenty-six from Rowley, was, with another company of about the same number, from Boston, ambuscaded by the savages, and nearly all slain, and the town reduced to ashes. No list of the dead seems to have been preserved, other than the name of the Captain. In a few months thereafter, the towns of Lancaster, Medford, Weymouth, Groton, Warwick, Marlborough, and several others were in great part or totally destroyed, and great numbers of the colonists slain. The war finally closed with the death of King Phillip, Aug. 12th, 1676.

A historian of a later period records of this struggle, that at its close, "every eleventh family was houseless, and every eleventh soldier had sunk to his grave." That members of our family took part, may be considered probable enough, but all records have been lost.

In 1688, Indian war again broke out in New England. Essex County furnished two regiments of two-hundred and two men. After several bloody battles the enemy was worsted. This attack was no doubt incited by the French, then at war with England.

In 1690, Sir William Phips, with a force of about 700 men, mostly colonists, attacked and captured Port Royal. Returning, he in August, with 2000 men, sailed for Quebec, but was ingloriously defeated, losing in the expe-



dition about one thousand men. To this force Rowley contributed one captain, one lieutenant, and thirty non-commissioned officers and privates, whose names are now lost.

Oct. 23d, 1692, a Mr Goodrich and wife and two daughters were killed by the Indians, in Rowley. The house where the massacre occurred was, in 1840, owned by Capt. GORHAM P. TENNEY, through his wife, who inherited it from her father, Dudley Lull, deceased. During all this war the town had a watch-house, built on high land, and in times of suspected danger kept up a watch to guard against sudden attacks from the Indians. Peace for a long period was merely nominal along the frontier.\*

In 1745, an expedition made up mainly of colonists, aided by an English fleet, captured Louisburg, on Cape Breton Island. Only a list of its killed in the action is preserved on the records of Rowley.

In 1755, nearly a whole company was raised in the town, who served at Lake George and its vicinity. Nova Scotia was subdued the same year.

July 26, 1756, Capt. John Pearson enlisted a company at Rowley, to serve under him at Fort Edward. Among the privates, the name of JAMES TENNEY is recorded.† (Hist. of Rowley, p. 209.)

In 1757, intelligence of the siege of Fort William Henry induced the Governor to order the colonels of all regiments to hold each man in readiness to march at a moment's warning. In the train-band of men belonging to Capt. John Northend's company, (May, 15, 1757,) I find the name of THOMAS TENNEY. In Captain Richard Thurston's train-band of the same date, I find the name of JOHN TENNEY, Jr. (See Hist. of R. pp. 210, 211, 212.) The massacre or capture and long imprisonment of about fifteen hundred persons, citizens and soldiers, by the Indians, unrestrained by the French when the fort capitulated, was one of the most horrible atrocities recorded in American history.

1759, the record shows that THOMAS TENNEY was at Lake George, in a company commanded by Capt. Thomas Poor, of Andover. In the latter part of the year, either the same THOMAS, or another of the name, enlisted at Rowley into Colonel David Appleton's regiment. Niagara, Ticonderoga, Crown Point and Quebec, all submitted to the English during the year.

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\*The General Court of Massachusetts Colony, in 1735 granted seven townships of land "to the officers and soldiers who were in the Narragansett war, or to their lawful representatives." Each township was to be divided to 120 persons. One of these townships called Narragansett No. 1, is now Buxton in the State of Maine. Among the grantees in this town, was "DANIEL TENNEY,—draws on the right of his father DANIEL TENNEY," in a "Rainy of lots by the Letter A," lot No. 7. In the list of letter B, SAMUEL TENNEY was assigned lot No. 2, on the right of THOMAS TENNEY.—Hist. and Gen. Reg. Vol. XXII, p. 277-8.

†I have not been able to trace any of the names to the families from whence they sprang.

NOTE.—Among a "list of persons in captivity," I find the name of MARY TENNEY, captured by Indians at Flu'g Point, North Yarmouth, May 10, 1756.—Hist. and Geneal. Reg. Vol. XIV, p. 274.



The battle on the Plains of Abraham above Quebec, between the English forces under Gen. Wolfe, and French under Montcalm, sealed the fate of all Canada. Peace, however, was not declared until 1763. During the contest, one-third of the effective men of the colonies were in the field, and at its close, the taxation necessary to pay its expenses was equal to "two-thirds of the income of the real estate." (Hist. p. 226.)

That our ancestry bore a part in many of these campaigns cannot be doubted; but the town records which would have thrown light upon the subject, have been lost.

## THE REVOLUTION.

Of events preceding, and, in the end, leading to the war of the Revolution, I make note of the following:

Oct. 10, 1765, the town of Rowley met for the purpose of instructing their representatives "to join in no measure countenancing the Stamp Act." This is the earliest expression of opinion upon the town records, touching revolutionary measures. The instructions were very pointed and decided, and admitted of no prevarication. It was the custom of that day for the representative to obey the will of his constituents, whose agent he was.

March 17, 1770, at a town meeting held for the purpose of "taking into consideration the doings of the principal merchants in Boston and other maritime towns in the province, relating to the non-importation of British manufactures," voted that a committee, (of thirteen) of which OLIVER TENNEY was one, "be appointed to consider what measures may be proper for this town to take, in order to prevent the importation of British manufactures, and encourage our own, and make report to the town at an adjourned meeting."

May 22, the town met according to adjournment, and heard the report. It is a most scholarly, able and pointed production, (Hist. of R. p. 232.) and was unanimously adopted. At the same meeting it was voted, "that the committee be desired to present to the inhabitants of this town a subscription paper in the form of that reported by them, that the inhabitants may have an opportunity of subscribing the same. And that the town clerk be desired to transmit to the committee of merchants in Boston, a copy of the report of the committee, and the votes of this town consequent thereon." Among the signers to this paper, were NATHANIEL TENNEY and JOHN TENNEY. (The agreement signed, was then called a "Whig Coven-

ant.") All who declined to sign, were denominated "tories and enemies of the country." By 1774, public feeling was so intense that many who had taken the other side, publicly retracted, and took the patriotic side without reserve.

The Stamp Act passed the English Parliament January 10, 1765. Andrew Oliver, of Boston, accepted the position of Stamp Master for the colonies, for which a mob assembled and destroyed his property.

December 30, 1772, a town meeting was held for the purpose of "taking into consideration a letter from Boston, and a pamphlet enclosed therein, in which pamphlet there is an exposition of the rights of the colonists, and of this Province in particular, as men, as christians, and as subjects; and a list of infringements and violations of rights; and to pass such votes and resolves thereupon as the town shall judge proper."\*

The town voted that a committee be appointed to take into consideration the said letter and pamphlet, among whom was NATHANIEL TENNEY. The report of the committee was a model of excellence, endorsing strongly both the letter and the positions taken by the author of the pamphlet, and set forth quite an array of public grievances and protests at the arbitrary acts of the English rulers of the colony.

Dec. 15, 1773, another town meeting was held, to protest "against the infringements and violations of our rights, by the East India Company's endeavoring to force upon us great quantities of their tea, subject to a duty from us," etc. The report of the committee, adopted by the meeting, is in part as follows:

"We cannot but look upon the present posture of our affairs as being very alarming and critical. We are persuaded that the design of the East India Company in sending their tea to America, subject to the payment of duty here, by virtue of an act of the British Parliament, is to enforce the ministerial plan of governing us, and to draw from the Americans an implicit acknowledgement of the authority of that Parliament to impose a tax upon them without their consent. And that a determined and steady opposition to this their design, is the duty of every American freeman."†

1775—Public meetings, committees, and preparations were now the order of the day. The town voted £40 for the relief of the suffering inhabitants of Boston; to pay six pence per week for five weeks to each soldier in the town who would drill half a day in each week. (An allowance afterwards doubled.) Guns, the property of the town, were called in and put in order, and provision made for a bayonet and cartridge box for each soldier who should enlist as a minute man. The year 1775 opened amidst great excite-

\*This pamphlet was probably Thomas Paine's "Rights of Man."

†The tea was thrown overboard in Boston Harbor, Dec. 16, 1773.

ment. The difficulty with the mother country had been growing yearly wider, and all thinking men saw that an appeal to arms was impending, and that no other remedy would meet the emergency.

Revolutionary events multiplied very rapidly at this period, but their recital in detail is not essential to this sketch.

Hostilities commenced at Lexington, April 19, 1775. A detachment of British troops six hundred strong marched the night preceding, to capture some provincial military stores accumulated at Concord. At break of day they came on a company of militia drawn up at Lexington,\* fired upon, killing eight, and wounding many others. They then moved on to Concord, but were defeated in their purpose. Meanwhile the militia rallied, and in the retreat to Boston, the British lost two hundred and seventy three killed, wounded and missing; and were only saved from annihilation, by re-inforcements which met them on the way. This battle, such as it was, opened the drama of a seven years' war, the results of which are known to all mankind.

News of the event reached Rowley the same day, and a company of minute men started for Boston, thirty-one miles distant, at once. By a rapid march they reached Cambridge on the forenoon of the 20th.

The town ordered its selectmen to provide a blanket for each soldier, May 8; and by vote refused to comply with the request of General Gage to elect a person to represent them at the Great and General Court, to be holden in Boston. In place of it they chose Nathaniel Mighill, Esq., to represent them in the Great and General Court to be holden in Watertown, July 19th.

March 19, 1776, the town, among others, appointed NATHANIEL TENNEY one of a Committee of safety. (Hist. of R. p. 252.)

May 22, the town further voted, "that if the Honorable Congress shall, for the safety of the Colonies, declare them *independent of Great Britain*, that we the inhabitants of the town of Rowley, do solemnly engage, that with our *lives* and *fortunes* we will support them in the measure."

Bounties for volunteers were at once the order of the day, and were profusely granted. On the 10th of Sept. "one-fifth of the militia of the state were ordered to march immediately to New York; one fourth part of the residue to be equipped, and ready to march at a moment's warning."

The year was full of stirring events, which it is not necessary to follow here.

In 1777, NATHANIEL TENNEY was again appointed a member of the Committee of Safety.

Up to December of this year the men in Rowley in the army had been wholly paid by the town. It was then relieved from that burden.

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\*The Postmaster at Temple, N. H., writes me under date of April 20, 1875: "One hundred years ago yesterday, BENJAMIN TENNEY marched with a company of volunteers from Temple to Cambridge, Mass., to take part in the Revolutionary War then opening."



In 1778, a committee was appointed, of which RICHARD TENNEY was one, to procure one lieutenant and nine privates, ordered by Col. Coggswell. December 21, the name of OLIVER TENNEY appears on a committee appointed to "take measures calculated to prevent the spread of small pox in the town." Persons enlisted at this period, were for three years, or during the war.

On the 20th of April, 1780, the town met to take into consideration the new proposed (State) constitution, or form of government, and after "attending to the reading of the same," adjourned to the 4th of May. On that day a vote was taken for or against each of the articles separately, taking them in their order. The third and tenth articles of the Bill of Rights seem to have been offensive, as the vote on the third stood 88 for, to 57 against, and on the tenth, 12 for and 123 against. After the vote was declared, the town voted to appoint a committee of nine, "to consider and prepare such alterations and amendments to these articles as shall be likely to make them more acceptable to the town." Among this committee is the name of NATHANIEL TENNEY. On the 23d of May the committee prepared certain alterations, but the result was not favorable, more opposing the change in the third article than at the election. On the tenth, the vote stood 101 for and 39 against.

On the 31st, the town again met, and voted "that if the amendment of the tenth article of the Bill of Rights, as proposed by this town, cannot be obtained, the article stand as originally drawn." (Page 271.) "Some debate was had on the second article of the first section of the second chapter; and the town voted, forty to one, in favor of substituting the word "Protestant" in place of the word "Christian;" but finally voted that if this amendment cannot be obtained, the article stand as it is. Also, "that the convention fix on the time when the Constitution shall go into operation." It would thus seem that the town preferred the establishment of the "Protestant" to the "Christian religion" in the State Constitution; but finally yielded the point.

A company was raised during the year to serve under Capt. Thomas Mighill, in Col. Nathaniel Wade's regiment, at West Point, for the term of three months. Among the names enrolled for this service, is that of EDAD TENNEY, who was probably not from Rowley.

In March, 1777, the town was called upon to raise fifty-eight men for the Continental Army, to serve three years or during the war. They were to receive an extra bounty. Among the names is BENJAMIN TENNEY,\* £15.

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\*It is quite probable that this BENJAMIN TENNEY was our grandfather. He was born, raised, and married in Bradford, and for a short time—as early as about 1768—was settled in Rowley. From thence he removed to Temple, N. H. The Birth Record of that town shows his first child, JANE, born April 5, 1769. Another TENNEY of the same christian name, was settled in Temple probably as early as 1775. His first child, SAMUEL, was born



In Dec., 1776, the following named persons of our family, belonging to Rowley, were enlisted to serve under Capt. John Dodge, of Wenham, three months from the first day of January, 1777, in the State of New York, to wit: First Lieutenant, JOHN TENNEY; Private, DAVID TENNEY. This company really marched Dec. 16, 1776, and were dismissed April, 1777, in the State of New York, three hundred and forty miles from Rowley. (Hist. p. 288.)

From a table made out in 1781, it appeared that the town had furnished its full proportion of men for the army of the Revolution; among them, three captains and nine lieutenants. The total during the struggle, was 448 men.

March 16, 1676, I find the name of WILLIAM TENNEY attached on the part of the town, to a lease of land to "Sammuel Spofforth" for a period of sixty years. "Duringe the times of ye Indian warres, ye rent is to be abated accordinge to the iudgment of indifferent men, if they be hindered in carrying on ye saide farme."

"That part of Rowley now within the limits of Byfield Parish, was early settled by various families, by the name (among them) of TENNEY."

"In 1649, measures were taken for settling that part of ancient Rowley now within the town of Bradford." One of the committee appointed to draw up an agreement between parties interested, was WILLIAM TENNEY. His name appears as a witness to several of the papers. "In 1670 the land between Newbury line, and Mr. Rogers farm, was laid out." Among those assigned tracts, were THOMAS TENNEY, (quantity not stated,) and JOHN TENNEY, (quantity unknown) "bounded easterly by a brook." (Hist p. 348.)

The people of Merrimack organized for town purposes in February, 1668. In 1672, a vote was passed to call the town Bradford, it being taken off of Rowley by consent. It was incorporated by that name in 1674. JOHN TENNEY was chosen one of the selectmen, Feb. 20, 1668, before the division was ratified.

## SETTLEMENT OF INDIAN TITLE TO THE TOWN.

"Att a Legall meeting of ye proprietors of Bradford in ye 23 of November, 1700, Ensign JOHN TENNEY was first chosen moderator; he appointed 3 men to treat with ye Englishmen and Indians if they come, concerning ye title to our lande. Ye 3 men were put to voat singly, namely Ensign Baly,

July 11, 1776. If our grandfather enlisted in 1777, he would have been about 31 years old. If it was the *other* BENJAMIN, he was doubtless about ten years younger. He died Sept. 2, 1790. Considering that Temple at that time was a mere frontier out-post, there would be nothing surprising in view of the state of the country, that either one should, in volunteering, be found credited to his native town. I have always understood that our grandfather was a soldier during the Revolutionary War.

Corporall Richard Kimball, and John Bointon, and they all passed on ye affirmatives. Afterwards at ye same meeting added to ye former Three Insign Tenny and Phillip Atwood. Ye proprietors gave them full power to act in behalf of ye town, accordinge to their best Judgm't or any thereof of them. On the same day ye 23d of Novemb'r 1700, their was a discourse, how ye charges should be defrayed yt might arise as to purchasing of ye heathen, if need were, and also ye charges as to ye committee for their expenses of his, was put to voat, if ye charges should not be laid on every man's land according to his proportion of land as Wilderness land, and it passed on ye affirmative, yt so ye charges should arise.

The town clerk being absent, ye Proprietors then choose me to write wt they did act. Examd pr STEPH. SEWALL, Recordr."

Essex ss. Registry of Deeds, Sept. 10, A. D, 1840. The foregoing is a true copy of record, Book 15, Leaf 136, etc., Att: R. H. French, Register, by David Pulsifer, 3d. (Hist. of Rowley, p. 372 to 377.)

Dec. 25, 1700, the town of Rowley appointed a committee of three to treat with the Attorneys of "those Indians which make demand for our lands, who do affirm that they are the proper heirs of *Mosquenomenet*, Sagamore of Agawam, and to make inquiry about our title, laboring to clear it up to the satisfaction of said attorneys, or make the best agreement with them they can."

The result was, the town paid the Indians, Samuel English, Joseph English and John Vmpee, the sum of £9 for a title to the township of Rowley. These Indians were grandsons of the Sagamore of Agawam; their grandfather claimed to be native proprietor of all the land lying between the Merrimack and Naumkeag, or Bass Rivers.

These Indian deeds of conveyance are curiosities of the olden time. Among the parties conveyed to is JOHN TENNEY of Bradford; deed recorded April 13, 1702. A part of the town of Rowley had been set off, and he with it. Here is the receipt in full:

"Recd, on ye thirtieth of January 1701, of the within named JOHN TENNEY, (and two others,) ye sum of six pounds, ten shillings in Currant Silver money of New England in full payment of ye purchase consideration within mentioned

By us—

ye mark  
JOHN ✂ ENGLISH, on 31 5, 1701,  
JOHN ✂ VMPEE.  
his mark

Up to 1669 the practice of writing dates by numbering the months prevailed; March was the 1st month and February the 12th. After numbering the months was discontinued, still the year commenced with the 25th of

March, until 1752. In 1751 the British Parliament by statute provided that the first day of January shall be the first day of the year 1752, and that the day following the second of September, 1752, should be called the fourteenth, omitting eleven intermediate nominal days. Bissextile, or leap years, are established every fourth year. The difference in style may be adjusted by adding eleven days to all dates before Sept. 2, 1752.

The taxes of the town levied June 9, 1691—the earliest of which a record is preserved—show that the TENNEYS paid that year: THOMAS TENNEY £2, 7s, 0d; JAMES TENNEY £3, 2s, 8d.

In 1785 Dr. SAMUEL TENNEY, then of Exeter, N. H., in a communication to the Historical Society of the State, published a scientific and highly valuable account of the "Dark Day," so noted in New England annals, on the 19th of May 1780. He was on his way at the time, as he states, from his father's house in Rowley, to join his regiment in New Jersey, and not only saw, but made exact observations of the phenomena, which he attributed to different layers of very dense clouds. The darkness of midnight covered a large portion of the coast of New England, New York, New Jersey, and reached even to Pennsylvania, creating great alarm among the credulous and superstitious of the time. It is no doubt the most correct and exact account of the event ever given to the world. *2307. 1. 1, p. 95*

*f. Mass.*

A post office was first established in Rowley in 1804; in Georgetown (a part set off) in 1814; and in Byfield Parish in 1826.

I copy from the "list of Early Marriages in Bradford, Mass.," so much as relates to the family name, for a period of about a century. (Hist. & Geneal. Reg. Vol. 18, p. 275.) It is not without interest.

William Hardy and Ruth Tenney, married May 3, 1673.

Daniel Tenney and Elizabeth Stickney, July 21, 1680.

Phillip Atwood and Sarah Tenney, July 23, 1684.

Samuel Tenney and Sarah Boynton, Dec. 18, 1690.

Samuel Tenney and Sarah Wooster, Jan. 5, 1719-20.

Ephraim Kim'll and Anne Tenney, Jan. ye 12, 1720-1.

Samuel Tyler and Sarah Tenney, Jan. 12, 1720-1.

Joseph Tenney and Abigail Wood, Feb. 14, 1722.

Nathaniel Kimball and Dorothy Tenney, Jan. 9, 1728-9.

Phillip Tenney and Jane Hale, June 20, 1730.

John Brocklebank, Jr. and Sarah Tenney, (both of Rowley,) June 1, 1728.

Phillip Hardy and Hannah Tenney, Dec. 22, 1743.

Samuel Stickney and Marabeth Tenney, Oct. 11, 1743.

Samuel Tenney and Elizabeth Fails, Dec. 28, 1749.

Daniel Tenney and Joanna Cheney, June 25, 1761.

John Hopkinson and Rebecca Tenney, Oct. 8, 1761.

Jeremiah Ames and Jenny Tenney, Mar. 5, 1761.

Thomas Stickney and Sarah Tenney, Jan. 6, 1761.

Solomon Tenney and Betty Savory, Dec. 31, 1761.

William Tenney and Rebecca Eams, Feb. 14, 1765.

Stephen Moore and Lydia Tenney, Nov. 9, 1762.

Jonathan Savory and Hannah Tenney, Mar. 7, 1783.

Moses Atwood and Polly Tenney, Nov. 17, 1789.

This list embraces only marriages in the Congregational Church.



# FAMILY RECORD.

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## FIRST GENERATION IN AMERICA.

THOMAS TENNEY and his wife ANN.

THOMAS was born in Rowley, Yorkshire County, England, in 1601. Emigrated to the province of Massachusetts in 1638, with his wife, and was among the very first settlers in Rowley, Essex County, Massachusetts.

Their children were the following:

JOHN TENNEY, born at Rowley, Massachusetts, Dec., 4, 1640.

HANNAH TENNEY, born at Rowley, Mass., Mar., 15, 1642.

MARY TENNEY, born at Rowley, Mass., June 17, 1644.

THOMAS TENNEY, born at Rowley, Mass., Mar. 16, 1648.

JAMES TENNEY, born at Rowley, Mass., Mar. 15, 1650.

DANIEL TENNEY, born at Rowley, Mass., Mar. 16, 1653.

The "Historical and Genealogical Register of New England," under the head of "Early Settlers in Essex and old Norfolk Counties," Mass., contains the following:—Vol. VII, p. 85. "Mighill, Thomas, of Rowley, wife ANN; sister of ANN TENNEY."

I infer from this record that Thomas Mighill and THOMAS TENNEY married sisters of each other before leaving England, and that both were named Ann. Thomas Mighill bore a very conspicuous part in all public and military affairs of the young colony. Both came over in the same ship.

Vol. VIII. p. 54, has this entry: "TENNEY, THOMAS, Sen. died 1661, aged 60." This seems to fix the date of his birth in 1601.

ANN, wife of THOMAS TENNEY, died in Rowley, Sept. 26, 1657. He was again married to ELIZABETH PARROT, Feb. 24, 1658, but it does not appear that they had other children.

The farm on which the family settled on first reaching Rowley—now in the parish of Byfield—was, after the decease of the parents, possessed by their youngest son, DANIEL, and by him conveyed to his younger son DANIEL TENNEY, Jr., in 1715. In 1851 it was still owned and occupied by descendants of the family.

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SECOND GENERATION.

JOHN TENNEY, eldest son of THOMAS and ANN, married MERCY PARROT, Feb. 21, 1664.

They had two children of whom a record has been preserved, to wit:

SARAH TENNEY, born Oct. 17, 1665,

SAMUEL TENNEY, born Nov. 20, 1667.

SARAH TENNEY was married to THOMAS TENNEY (probably a son of Daniel, youngest son of Thomas and Ann.) The mother died about the time of the birth of SAMUEL. She was buried Nov. 27, 1667.

In 1668 the town of Rowley was divided and the parish of Bradford created. It was formally incorporated by the General Court in 1673. By this change the family of JOHN and MERCY TENNEY were probably left in the new township, as his name appears as one of the first Selectmen. In 1677 it again appears on a committee, to "advise as to what might be thought best for the further carrying on the affairs of religion, and to prepare for the settlement of the ordinances of God in this place." (Hist. of Rowley, etc.)

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THIRD GENERATION.

SAMUEL TENNEY, of Bradford, son of JOHN and MERCY, married ABIGAIL BAILY, who died Nov. 28, 1689, leaving a daughter of the same name, born six days before. He then married SARAH BOYNTON, Dec. 18, 1690. They had six sons and six daughters. The names of only four of the sons seem to have been preserved, and were as follows:

SAMUEL TENNEY, born in 1693,

DANIEL TENNEY, born in 1695,

WILLIAM TENNEY, born in 1699,

JONATHAN TENNEY, born in 1703.

The name of SAMUEL TENNEY appears as Deacon of a Church, in 1712.

A new parish was incorporated by religious subdivision of Bradford in 1756. At the first meeting, July 4, his name appears as moderator. The church was formally organized June 7, 1727. Until this time it is probable the family attended worship in the neighboring town of Rowley.

The Genealogical Dictionary of New England gives the annexed data, from which it will be seen that members of the family at a quite early period had removed into other towns:

"Daniel Tenney, of Bradford, married July 23, 1680, to Elizabeth Stickney.

Daniel Tenney, of Rowley, youngest son of Thomas, by wife Mary, had Thomas, born 1681; Daniel, 1694; John, 1696; William, 1698; Richard, 1701; Ebenezer, 1703; besides two daughters.

James Tenney, of Boston, married Sept. 8, 1654, Elizabeth, daughter of Abram Hogborn.

John Tenney, of Scarborough, married a daughter of Henry Warwick of Saco, who with her mother fled from Indian hostilities to Gloucester before 1690. May have been of Rowley before 1673."

#### FOURTH GENERATION.

JONATHAN TENNEY, son of SAMUEL AND SARAH, was born in 1703. Name of wife not known, nor date of marriage. Had sons, as far as can be ascertained, as follows:

JONATHAN TENNEY,  
JOSEPH TENNEY,  
DANIEL TENNEY,  
BENJAMIN TENNEY.

There is some obscurity about the records of this family, which all research has thus far failed to make clear, although inquiries have been made at all known points in Rowley, and Bradford and Byfield parishes, where it was supposed that information was easily accessible. From a sketch prepared by our father, DANIEL TENNEY, July 5, 1864, for JONATHAN TENNEY, of Boscowan, N. H., giving his recollections of the family history, the same having been left in my possession, I quote the following:

"My father's name was BENJAMIN, a son of JONATHAN TENNEY. My recollection, from impresssions early received, is, that he was born in Bradford, Massachusetts, and I think was reared there during his years of minority. He there married a lady named SMITH, (JANE SMITH, probably,) removed to Rowley for a short period, and then to Temple, Hillsborough county, N. H. He had several brothers, among them Jonathan, Joseph, Daniel, and others whose names I have forgotten. He lost his first wife at Temple, and afterwards married my mother, whose maiden name was SUSANNA JEWETT," etc. "My father was a joiner by trade, and sought the then new country of New Hampshire as a larger field of business activity."

As before stated, a church was organized in Bradford, June 7, 1727.

Among the male members I find the names of SAMUEL, DANIEL and JONATHAN TENNEY. Among female members, were HANNAH, DOROTHY, SARAH, and the wife of JOHN TENNEY.

In 1747, the name of JONATHAN TENNEY is recorded as a Deacon of this Church. (Centennial Discourse of Gardner B. Perry, A. M., Pastor of Congregational Church, East Parish, Bradford, two hundred years after the settlement of New England, Dec. 22, 1820. Published 1821.)

### FIFTH GENERATION.

BENJAMIN TENNEY, son of JONATHAN, and JANE SMITH\* his wife. He was our grandfather, and was born about 1743, and married probably about 1768. The place of his death is unknown. Married it is supposed in Bradford, Mass. Date unknown.

The children by this marriage were the following, all born in Temple, N. H., as appears by the record of births kept in said town:

JANE TENNEY, born April 5, 1769,

MARY (Polly?) TENNEY, born Sept. 7, 1771,

LYDIA TENNEY, born July 21, 1773,

BENJAMIN TENNEY, born March 16, 1776.

The wife of BENJAMIN, father of the above, having died, he married (probably about 1782,) SUSANNA JEWETT, of Temple. They had children, to wit:

SUSANNA TENNEY, born June 9, 1783,

LUCY TENNEY, born Nov. 24, 1786,

SAMUEL TENNEY, Oct. 14, 1788,

BETSEY TENNEY, July 4, 1790,

JONATHAN TENNEY, Apr. 6, 1792,

DANIEL TENNEY, born Feb. 13, 1794,

HANNAH TENNEY, born Apr. 5, 1796.

Our grandfather's first child was born in Temple, in 1769. The town was organized in 1759-60, upon the extreme frontier. In 1775 the Revolution opened at Lexington, Mass., and it is probable that he took part at the commencement, and in 1777 enlisted and was credited to his old home, Rowley, for three years or during the war, as the name appears on the bounty rolls of the town as having been paid £15, and it is not probable that Temple, at

\*The birth record at Temple simply says, "children of Benjamin and Jane," and "Benjamin and Susanna." Our family record shows the name of the first wife to have been SMITH, and the last to have been JEWETT.



that early period, possessed means to pay extra sums for military services. The struggle continued seven years. Shortly after the close of the contest, by marriage and emigration the members of the family became separated. Evidence of this is by no means unfrequent in the names of descendants, especially in that of BENJAMIN JEWETT TENNEY which is found in several families, and could have only had a common origin.

I find the following notices of the name of BENJAMIN TENNEY, our grandfather, in the History of Temple, N. H.

In the list of Carpenters in the town, in 1797, are the names of "BENJAMIN TENNEY, and his son Benjamin."

Oct. 28, 1775, in accordance with the request of the Provincial Congress, the selectmen of Temple reported a summary of the population, and the amount of powder and number of firearms in their possession, etc. Among the names is BENJAMIN TENNEY, 1 male under the age of 16; 1 between the age of 16 and 50 years; two females; 1 gun and  $\frac{1}{2}$  a pound of powder. (Hist. T. p. 102.)

Congress, by resolution adopted March 14, 1776, recommended to the proper authorities of the country to "immediately cause all persons to be disarmed within their respective colonies, who were notoriously disaffected to the cause of America," etc. BENJAMIN TENNEY's name is recorded as one of the subscribers, who "hereby solemnly profess our entire willingness, at the Risque of our Lives and Fortunes, with arms, to oppose the Hostile Attempts of the British Fleets and Armies, against the United American Colonies, whenever, and to such a degree, as such attempts of Brittain may require." (Hist. T. p. 106.) Only three tories were found in the town.

Oct. 1776, "Nine soldiers went on an alarm to Ticonderoga, in Capt. J. Heald's Company of Capt. Bellows' Regiment. BENJAMIN TENNEY was one of them. (Hist. T. p. 107.)

June 29, 1777, on another alarm from Ticonderoga, there was a general rush to arms—BENJAMIN TENNEY, on this occasion drew in ammunition from the town deposit, 30 bullets, 3 flints, and 1 pound of powder. (Hist. T. p. 114.)

Dec. 1, 1779, it was voted "to set a new meeting House at ye Spot where ye old meeting House now stands, or as near as may be convenient."—"Voted to choose a committee of five to make a draft for said meeting house. Chose Messrs. Francis Cragin, Abrm. Dinsmore, BENJAMIN TENNEY, S. N. Sticknee, and Enos B. Cutter." (Hist. T. p. 133.)

JANE TENNEY married Joseph Hall, of Temple, N. H. The family removed to New Haven, Connecticut, where it is supposed she died.

POLLY TENNEY, (or Mary, as her name appears on the birth records of

Temple,) married Asahel Miles. The family removed to Weston, Vermont, where she died about 1849.

LYDIA TENNEY died at an early age—date and place unknown.

BENJAMIN TENNEY died at Middlebury, Vermont, in 1808.

SUSANNA TENNEY married Joseph Kirk, who afterwards removed to Baltimore, Md. The family had one member who went to Russia as an engineer on its first railroad. One became a preacher, and another was the author of a valuable patent for some railroad improvement. He was long employed on either Philadelphia or Baltimore roads.

LUCY TENNEY married Prescot Wilkins, who settled in Chardon, Geauga County, Ohio, in 1835, and raised on enterprising and wealthy family.

SAMUEL TENNEY married, for his first wife, Sally Richardson, at Weston, Vermont, in 1808, by whom he had four daughters. His second wife was Sarah Taft, of Danby, Vermont. Only two of the children, LEVI and RUTH, survived at the date of latest information. Their residence is Cedar Valley, Wayne County, Ohio.

BETSEY TENNEY married Josiah Richardson, by whom she had two children, who at last accounts were living in Cleveland, Ohio. She died in 1816, at Weston, Vermont. *(on) Sept. 13 - 1808*

JONATHAN TENNEY, while at work on a court house at Catskill, N. Y., in 1812, met with an accident, which disabled him for life. The date of his death is unknown.

DANIEL TENNEY, our father, died Feb. 1, 1875, at Laporte, Lorain Co., Ohio. A sketch of his life is given at length.

HANNAH TENNEY married Silas Wilkins, and settled in La Grange, Lorain Co., Ohio, about 1836, and lived there till she died. They left several children who live thereabouts, and are very intelligent and thrifty people.

By an oversight which I regret, I failed to collect the particular facts in regard to this family.

## SIXTH GENERATION.

DANIEL TENNEY, and SYLVIA KENT, eldest daughter of John Kent, married at Dorset, Bennington County, Vt., Oct. 26, 1815. Had children as follows:

BENJAMIN JEWETT TENNEY, born in Dorset, Vt., July 9, 1816. Supposed to have died in California.

EMILY TENNEY, born in Dorset, Vt., March 8, 1818. Died at Galena, Ill., Apr. 17, 1849.

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HORACE A. TENNEY, born on Grand Isle, Vt., Feb. 22, 1820.

HENRY W. TENNEY, born on Grand Isle, Vt., Jan. 2, 1822.

GEORGE TENNEY, born on Grand Isle, Vt., Dec. 3, 1823. Died Dec. 12, 1825.

MARIA E. TENNEY, born on Grand Isle, Vt., Oct. 19, 1825.

MYRON TENNEY, born at Plattsburgh, N. Y., Sept. 30, 1827. Died at Little Falls, N. Y., June 25, 1835.

ELECTA TENNEY, born at Plattsburgh, N. Y., Mar. 7, 1830.

ELLEN TENNEY, born at Plattsburg, N. Y., July 18, 1832. Died at Norwalk, Ohio, May 18, 1852.

DANIEL KENT TENNEY, born at Plattsburgh, N. Y., Dec. 31, 1834.





## FAMILY SKETCHES.

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### DANIEL TENNEY AND SYLVIA KENT, AND THEIR FAMILY.

Having thus traced the ancestry of our father and mother, I will proceed to give an account of them and their family in their order:

#### DANIEL TENNEY.

Our father was born on the 13th day of February, 1794, at Temple, in New Hampshire. At the age of nine years he removed to Weston, Vermont. When sixteen years old he went to Dorset, Vt., to learn the trade of a "hatter." The "hatting business," as it existed in those days and for sometime after, is obsolete now. Now all hats are manufactured in a few large cities. Then every considerable village had its hat shops for the manufacture of hats, as much as its tailors and shoemakers. Having learned the trade, he married SYLVIA KENT, our mother, on the 26th of October, 1815, her birthday, and settled in Dorset, where he pursued his trade.

In October, 1819, he removed to Grand Isle County, Vt. Two large, fertile and populous islands in lake Champlain, with some small ones, compose Grand Isle County. He located on the south island, which is considerably the largest, on the shore of "Keeler's Bay," which looks towards Vermont, and there set up a hat shop and manufactory. There were no villages on the Island, and the people were mostly farmers. There were many Quakers there, and he took a great liking to them and their ways, and he became one himself, and wore their garb and spoke their dialect for several years.

Most of his children were born on this Island. It proved to be a poor place for business, and in June, 1828, he removed to Plattsburg, N. Y., a village of about 3,000 inhabitants, nearly opposite. There he engaged in the same business again on a more extensive scale. He had a carding machine to work up wool into "hat bodies," and a shop where he manufactured

both "wool hats" and "fur hats," and a hat store. He bought many furs from the hunters in all the region thereabouts, and worked them up in his business, and also wool and sheep skins. When anybody killed a sheep in that neighborhood he brought the green skin to him to sell, and he usually took in four or five a day. It was our job occasionally to plaster the inside of these skins with lime to loosen the wool, and the next day to wash them in the river and pull the wool off, an operation which we voted to be inferior in attraction to many others. The smell of muskrat skins and gum shellac, the "hat pairings," the logwood-cutting, the steam of the "plank-shop," and the "podgums," still assert their claim upon our memory.

About 1830 he invented and patented a new process for making hat-bodies, which was a valuable invention, and must be in use yet. He used this in his own factory, and he sold many rights to use it in other states. In selling and introducing it he traveled considerably for two or three years, visiting Boston, Philadelphia, and many other places. He made considerable money out of it, but was subsequently swindled out of most of it by a dishonest partner. He did quite a large business with Montreal, selling hat-bodies in large quantities there. In this he developed a wonderful obliviousness of the necessity of respecting the revenue laws of Her Majesty's province, and in short, he smuggled them in whenever he could, and he generally could. He had many adventures and hair-breadth escapes in this free pursuit of his happiness, all of which he remembered vividly, and liked to laugh about even in the last years of his life.

While living in Plattsburg he gradually lost his liking for Quakerism, and in a few years he doffed the shad-belly and broadbrim, and resumed the speaking of English. He always took great interest in theological questions and discussions, particularly in antagonism of the narrow and rigorous doctrines then in vogue as "orthodox." The "Universalists" began to make head there about that time, and he joined them, and became quite active in the cause. He even preached sometimes in their meetings.

In 1832-3 the "Western Fever" broke out in Plattsburg, and many families, ours among them, proposed to emigrate, their ideas being principally concentrated upon Green Bay, Wis. Dr. Beaumont, an eminent army surgeon from Plattsburg, had been stationed there, and perhaps that fixed their attention upon that place.

A vessel was built, called the "Novelty," capable of navigating the lake and Erie canal, and in May, 1835, it started westward, with our family and many others on board. On the way our brother, MYRON, became dangerously sick, and we had to stop at Little Falls, N. Y., nearly all summer. He died there. Late in the fall we started on again, and by some inscrutable dispensation of Providence we brought up in the little village of Laporte, in Lorain County, Ohio, about twenty-five miles west of Cleveland.

The country was all new then, and the land covered with dense forests. We had hard times there for several years. Since then, everything about there and all over the west, has wonderfully improved and increased. But Laporte is smaller now than it was then. Nevertheless the family continued to live there till father's death, on the 1st of February, 1875, and he is buried there, with ELLEN and our mother's mother, MARTHA LIVINGSTON KENT. He never followed his own trade in Ohio, and in fact the trade had become by that time nearly obsolete. He secured a comfortable homestead of an acre or two, about the best in the village, on the bank of Black River, and there he lived in peace and contentment all the rest of his days. He was for most of the time postmaster and justice of the peace. Occasionally in the early times he preached his favorite doctrine, and it was always a prominent thing with him. From his death-bed he sent us his last message that he died a Universalist, and without any fear of the future.

Our father was a genial, good-feeling, happy and virtuous man. He never had a single bad habit or propensity. "His good was spontaneous"—there was no theory or effort about it. He was honest, temperate, kind, and a good citizen every way, because it was natural for him to be so. He never drank a drop of spirits except as medicine, and never used tobacco. He was full of life and vivacity, always enjoyed himself, and wished others to do the same. He was always industrious, as his large garden showed, and he abhorred a lazy man or idler. He went to bed not long after the sun, and rose with the same luminary.

He was not a great man, but his intellect and cultivation were above the average. He was not a good business man, perhaps because he cared little for money or property, and always felt more like giving than receiving. With his simple habits he needed but little, and wanted no more. He was not lacking in energy and force of character, but he was reluctant to use harshness unless it was necessary. When occasion required, however, a look of his eye, or a motion of his finger, was understood to mean business.

In person, he was rather short and thick-set, and of a nervous temperament. He had a Roman nose of the truest type and amplest size, and a thick, firm-set curly head of hair, which stayed till the last, and finally became as white as snow. His health was always first-rate, except that he had occasional spells of nervous depression, or *blues*. Such was our father.

#### SYLVIA TENNEY.

SYLVIA TENNEY, our mother, was born in Dorset, Vt., October 26, 1792. Of her childhood and youth we have no special record. Early in the present century the family removed to the town of Milton, in northern Ver-



mont, then almost upon the frontier of settlement, where a new farm was taken up, and where she for a time resided; but a portion of these years were passed with relations in Dorset.

On the 11th of September, 1814, while at the house of a relative in the town of Georgia, near the home of her parents, the battle of lake Champlain took place on the opposite shore about ten miles distant. She was a spectator from a high hill of the action, as far as the distance and smoke of the conflict permitted, and has often described the struggle to us.

The action was fought on Sunday, and opened about the time citizens (who were left,) had assembled for worship. The sound died away in about two and a half hours, followed at intervals by an occasional shot as the British fleet, vessel after vessel, surrendered. News of the victory came before she left the hill on which she was standing.

In the evening some of the younger of the family were much alarmed by the sudden arrival of Col. Stephen Martindale and two or three others, who having rowed across the lake, came up from the shore through the woods to the house, and in a peremptory voice demanded of those present to know if they would surrender.\* The air had been thick with rumors for some weeks preceding the battle, of a proposed march of thousands of Indians along the Vermont shore, as allies of the English. The report alone was sufficient to inspire universal terror, and was only dissipated by the rapid retreat of the enemy.

On the 26th of October, 1815, our mother was married to our father at Dorset, where he was then established in business. From thenceforth for a period of sixty years their fortunes were united, so that a history of one includes that of the other.

Our recollections of our mother for nearly half a century are most kind and respectful, and we think we have derived some of our best qualities from her. She had but a limited education, but she was endowed by nature with an excellent intellect, a fine nervous organization, and a quiet but resolute energy and will. Her character was simple, sincere and earnest, her perceptions quick, her ideas clear, her judgment deep, serious, thoughtful, judging things by their real worth, and therefore having much vivacity, she nevertheless possessed a kindly disposition, and a fine sense and faculty of wit.

She was a very neat, industrious and excellent housekeeper, and all our family owe much to her care and faithfulness. She was naturally a Presbyterian, and always adhered firmly to that faith. In person she was of about medium height, rather slender and pale. She never seemed to be

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\*Sylvia Martindale was the wife of grandfather Livingston, father of Martha Livingston, wife of our grandfather Kent. Col. Martindale was her brother. It is probable that our mother received her Christian name from this relation.



very healthy or strong, but she had a native vigor of constitution, and an energy of character and will, which enabled her to do and endure more in eighty odd years, than almost any other woman. Let her memory always be honored by us.

She is now residing with her daughter, Maria Waggoner, at Thayer, Kansas.

### BENJAMIN JEWETT TENNEY.

BENJAMIN JEWETT TENNEY was born on the 9th day of July, 1816, at Dorset, Vt. His boyhood was mostly spent in Plattsburgh, N. Y. He attended school, and worked about our father's hat shop, store, etc. He spent some six months at school in St. Dennis, Lower Canada, where nobody could speak English, and ever afterwards he spoke French with great fluency, and often had occasion to practice it among the French Canadians, who are numerous in Vermont and Northern New York. He learned the printing trade at Malone, N. Y., and afterwards worked at it in Keeseville, and in Burlington, Vt. He was smart and ambitious, and fitted himself for college by his own exertions. He entered the University of Vermont in 1835, the same year that the rest of the family removed to Ohio. In the winter of 1835 he made quite a sensation by reporting in short-hand, and publishing a small volume of the revival sermons of the then celebrated preacher, Jedediah Burchard, much to the displeasure of the latter and his friends. As he had to earn his own way through college, he was out a year to replenish his funds. A part of this was spent at Montreal, during the Canadian rebellion, much of which he saw and described in letters which were published. He also taught in the Plattsburgh Academy some six months. He graduated in 1840, in the same class with H. J. Raymond, afterwards editor of the New York Times. At the final examination, Raymond stood first in the class, and B. J. second. The celebrated "Tippacanoë and Tyler too" campaign was in full blast when they graduated, and both attracted much attention by making political speeches during that fall. Raymond was a Whig, and B. J. a democrat, and each suited the style of his party. The former was more refined and scholar-like, and the latter more energetic, forcible, and popular. B. J. seemed the abler and more promising man at that time. He soon afterwards commenced the study of the law at Burlington, and after he was admitted to the bar, went into partnership with D. A. Smalley, (afterwards Judge of the U. S. Court.) at that place. On the 15th of Feb., 1843, he married Eveline Whipple, of Montreal, by whom he had two or three children, all of whom died young. A few years afterwards he fell into bad habits which led to his ruin. He left

Burlington in 1846, and since that time our accounts of him are not very definite. He was for a year or so in Kingston, N. Y. He afterwards went south, and was for a time in Richmond, Va., where he edited the "Richmond Dispatch." D. K. received several copies of it from him while there, with his name published as editor. Some twenty years ago he went to California, and we have never been able to get any reliable trace of him since. He is doubtless dead.

B. J. was a man of remarkable talents, as all who ever knew him will bear witness. He was a first-rate scholar, a powerful speaker, and a fluent and forcible writer. He also had wonderful business talent, and could make money anywhere, and out of any thing. In beautiful and easy penmanship he could hardly be excelled. His force of will, energy of manner, vivacity, and wit, carried all before him, in whatever he undertook. But the exuberance of his powers carried him too fast and too far. He would not learn the lesson of self-control. He was one

———"whose judgment clear  
 Could others teach the course to steer,  
 Yet ran, himself, life's mad career  
 Wild as the wave."

Peace to his ashes, wherever they are.

H. W.

EVELINE WHIPPLE (wife of B. J. Tenney,) was born at Coteau du Lac, in Lower Canada.

Her parents were New Englanders. They removed to Canada soon after the war of 1812. Capt. Whipple, her father, was extensively engaged in steamboat transportation on the St. Lawrence. After B. J. left Burlington, she continued to reside there for several years with a married sister, Mrs. Wilkins, having procured a divorce. She afterwards went to New Albany, Indiana, as a teacher of music. At the invitation of a Mrs. Stewart, a lady of wealth residing there, she made a European tour with her. She went to Portage City, Wis., in 1855, and taught music there. In 1861 she was married to John Peabody, a merchant, at Cambria. They soon afterwards removed to Fond du Lac, Wis., and resided there until 1870, when they removed to San Francisco, Cal., where she died, April 20, 1874, aged 50 years. She was a very intelligent, amiable, and accomplished woman.

#### EMILY TENNEY.

EMILY TENNEY was born in Dorset, Vt., Mar. 18, 1818. Married in Laporte, Lorain Co., Ohio, Oct. 26, 1847, to Augustus L. Chetlain, of Galena, Illinois. Died at Galena, Apr. 17, 1849. She left an infant son, Arthur Henry Chetlain, born Apr. 12, 1849.

The following sketch of the ancestry of the Chetlain family, and of their manner of emigration to what was long known as the "Selkirk Settlement" of British America, cannot fail to prove interesting to the readers of this volume. The facts it embodies were furnished by Gen. Chetlain.

LOUIS CHETLAIN was born at Tramelan, canton of Neuchatel, Switzerland, in the year 1796. He belonged to an old French family who lived in the Jura for several centuries or more during the feudal times, the proprietors of a vast estate, on which was a castle.

The Droz family were French and descended from the Huguenots of Eastern France. Soon after their marriage, they, in company with some 300 persons from that part of Switzerland, and from the section of southern Germany lying on the Rhine, determined to emigrate to the British possessions in North America. They formed a colony under English auspices, and started in a body for the Red River of the North, going by Hudson's Bay and up the Nelson River to Lake Winnipeg. After much hardship, in the autumn of 1821 they reached Fort Garry. The grasshoppers having destroyed all the crops of the summer previous, the colonists suffered greatly for want of food during the following winter.

In the spring of 1823, a portion of the colony having become dissatisfied with the country, determined to leave for the United States, the CHETLAINS being of the number. The party passed through the Indian country, down the Minnesota River and the Mississippi in open boats, reaching St. Louis, Mo., late in the fall. In the spring of 1825, LOUIS CHETLAIN and family joined a party of pioneers, headed by Col. Henry Gratiot, and ascended the Mississippi River to the lead mines, near Galena, where he engaged in mining and smelting lead ore.

During the Black Hawk war of 1832-3 the family were at Gratiot's Grove, and LOUIS CHETLAIN served some months as a volunteer soldier. Two years after the war the family moved to a farm near Galena, which homestead is still in its possession.

There were born to Mr. and Mrs. CHETLAIN eleven children, three of whom died in infancy. Six of the children are still living.

A. L. CHETLAIN was born in St. Louis, Mo., Dec. 26, 1824, and with the family removed to Galena, Ill., in 1825. After receiving as liberal an English education as could be obtained in the place, he in 1851 engaged in mercantile business, which continued about eight years, when he visited Europe about a year, returning in time to take a part in the political canvass of 1860. Upon the breaking out of the rebellion he enlisted a company of volunteers for the service, of which he was chosen captain. When the 12th Illinois Regiment of Infantry was organized, he was commissioned Lieutenant Colonel, and in September, 1861, was placed in command at



Smithland, Ky., and did not rejoin his regiment until 1862. He was subsequently promoted Colonel of the 12th Regiment, and after the Battle of Shiloh, was, in 1863, placed in command of the post at Corinth. In December of the same year he was promoted to Brigadier General, and placed in charge of the organization of colored troops in Tennessee. In January 1865, he had charge of 17,000 blacks, and was breveted a Major General by the War Department. He commanded the post and defences of Memphis until October, and from that time until February, 1866, was in command of the District of Talladega, Alabama. He was then mustered out of service.

In 1867 he was appointed Assessor of Internal Revenue for Utah and Wyoming Territories, with head-quarters at Salt Lake City. In the spring of 1869 he was appointed Consul to Brussels, Belgium, and after three years absence returned to the United States, and located in Chicago, embarking in the business of banking in which he is now engaged. April 6, 1865, Gen. CHETLAIN was again married to Mrs. Annie Edwards Smith, of Rockford, Ill.

ARTHUR HENRY CHETLAIN, only son of Augustus and Emily, was born in Galena, Ill., Apr., 12, 1849.

At the age of fifteen years he went to Madison, and entered the preparatory department of the State University. Entered the college classes in 1866. After completing the Sophomore year, he was appointed Assistant Assessor of U. S. Internal Revenue for the First District of Utah Territory, and in the fall of 1868 proceeded to Salt Lake City to discharge the duties of the position.

In July, 1869, he resigned the office to finish his college course, and in the fall of 1869 returned to Madison, entering the Junior class of the University. Shortly after he went with his father to Brussels, in Belgium, and there took a course of study in the natural sciences in the *Universite Libre*, where he graduated with the title of Doctor of Sciences. Upon returning from Europe in March, 1871, he studied law in Rockford, Ill., under the instruction of Hon. William Lathrop. Received the honorary title of A. B. in June, 1871, conferred by the University of Wisconsin. Was admitted to the bar in 1873, removing to Chicago in July of the same year, and commenced the practice of law. In July, 1874, he became associated in business with Stephen S. Gregory, of Madison, Wis., under the firm name of Chetlain & Gregory. They are now enjoying a very successful practice.

Mr. Chetlain is a young man of high and varied attainments, possessing marked ability, and is destined to achieve distinction in his chosen profession.



## HORACE A. TENNEY.

I was born on South Island, Grand Isle County, Vt., Feb. 22, 1820. My earliest recollections are of playing on the shores of Lake Champlain with my brothers and sisters, on the banks of which, on a beautiful bay on the eastern side, my parents' house was located. I first attended school in a little stone edifice located about the centre of the island, which at this point was scarcely two miles across, probably when about four years of age; my recollection of the locality is still very vivid.

April 8, 1828, our family moved across the lake to Plattsburgh, N. Y., only some four or five miles distant. My childhood here was mainly passed in attendance upon what was even then called "the Old Academy," and in the usual sports of youth.

The battle fought at this place between the English and American forces, on the 11th of September, 1814, about thirteen years before, was the exciting topic of the time, and the details were still vivid. Mere boys who had been in the place during the action had only just grown up to manhood. Many of the cannon were still in the batteries; the house in which we lived bore the marks of shot and bullets, as did most houses in the place; and among the young, who were constantly finding relics of the struggle, on land and in the Saranac river, the fight was a source of never-ending interest, especially as we daily met soldiers who had taken part in the conflict.

About 1831 a cotton factory was erected in the village, whose machinery awakened all my youthful curiosity, and at my own earnest entreaty I was permitted to work in charge of a small machine, for a period of several months. This I think was my first regular labor. It ended in being returned to my studies again.

About 1832 I performed my first work in a printing office, aiding in the *batting* with ink-balls (for ink-rollers were then unknown) a part of the forms of Dr. Beaumont's now celebrated work on "Digestion"—the result of a series of experiments on the stomach of Alexis St. Martin. The latter was a French Canadian, terribly wounded by a gun-shot, at Mackinaw, a few years previous, which had healed, leaving an orifice through the stomach and side, into which a silver frame had been inserted, and through which any desired article of food could be conveyed into the digestive apparatus when experiments were to be made. I knew him as a stout and hearty man, the father of a family, and quite able to earn his own living by manual labor. Employment for a few weeks on this volume, was my first introduction to the art of printing. The press upon which the forms were printed, as well as the process of manipulation, would be esteemed a great curiosity to the craft at the present time.

In 1833 I commenced learning the trade of printer, at Keeseville, Essex County, N. Y., in the office of the *Keeseville Argus*—A. A. Emmons, editor. The village is about sixteen miles south of Plattsburgh.

May 28. 1835, our family started for the west with a purpose of settling in Zanesville, Ohio, and I went with them. The sickness and death of brother MYRON, stopped us at Little Falls, Herkimer Connty, N. Y. He died June 25th, and on the 15th of September following, the family moved on, going to what is now Laporte, Lorain Co., Ohio, where they settled, and my father and mother remained until his death in 1875.

Having obtained employment in the office of the *Mohawk Courier*, J. A. Noonan, editor, I remained behind. On the night of 1st of January, 1836, the office was burned with all its contents, I losing everything but the clothes I had on. As there was no other establishment in the place, and my home was nearly six hundred miles distant, with four feet of snow on the ground, and no travelling except by stages, the prospect for a time looked dubious. In a few weeks, however, the material was renewed by a Mr. Johnson, a new proprietor, and I remained at work until the following May. I then started on a canal boat, and at the end of a week was landed in Buffalo. Just a week later I reached home, about twenty-four miles west of Cleveland, so slow was traveling at that time. I have since many times passed over the same route in less than twenty hours.

Northern Ohio was then, in large part, an almost unbroken forest. I have already lived to see this largely disappear, followed by great and marked climatic changes over all that region.

In July, 1836, I procured work in the office of the *Democrat*, published in Elyria, the county seat; Le Grand Byington, editor. In the fall of the same year I returned home to attend the winter school,\* my brother, H. W. replacing me in the office.

In 1837, after much delay in finding a situation, I went to Ashtabula, O., and worked in the office of the *Sentinel*, Robert Parkman, editor. Here I commenced my first efforts at editorial writing. In the fall Parkman retired and was replaced by Henry Fassett, as editor. Shortly after I went to Painesville, Ohio, working for a season on the *Telegraph*, Horace Steele, editor; returning from this place to Elyria, in April.

In 1838, I went with Le Grand Byington, to Ravenna, Portage Co., and for nearly a year published the *Buckeye Democrat*. I commenced at this place studying law during leisure hours, with a purpose of making that a future profession.

In the spring of 1839 I again returned to Elyria, working at odd hours

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\*The last common school I ever attended was in Laporte; William R. Taylor, present Governor of Wisconsin, was the teacher.

in the *Democrat* office, but entering the Academy at that place, and continuing the reading of law. In December, as a novelty, I obtained a school in the town of Amherst—teaching four months—being the first and last effort of the kind I have ever undertaken. The school was a success, and was to me a decidedly new experience.

In 1840 the paper changed name and proprietorship—and became the *Lorain Standard*—Charles Chaney, Esq., editor, and myself in charge of the publication. In the fall the paper was suspended, and in October I entered the Western Reserve College, at Hudson, as a student, for so much of a course as I had means to pay for. I remained in the institution until the fall of 1841; worked for a short season on the *Advertiser*, at Cleveland, Ohio, (now *Plaindealer*) and in January, 1842, went to Columbus, and obtained employment on the state printing in the *Statesman* office—Sam. Medary, editor.

In April of the same year I returned to Elyria, and purchased the *Independent Treasury*, as the newspaper was then called. At the close of the volume, I changed it to *Lorain Republican*—myself editor and proprietor, and continued the publication about three years.

I was admitted to the bar in Sept., 1843, and at the election in October, was elected Prosecuting Attorney of the county; and on the 5th of Dec., was married to Juliette P. Chaney, daughter of Charles Chaney, Esq., whose paper I had formerly published.

Up to this time I had heard much of the West opening beyond the great lakes, and had a strong desire to try fortune in a larger field. The financial crash of 1836-7 had bankrupted the whole country, put an end to all new enterprises, and nearly forced a suspension of all forms of business. Emigration received a check and actually turned back eastward, owing to the sickness and privation endured by the first arrivals, especially in Michigan, Indiana and Illinois. Multitudes perished, and other multitudes fled to escape the agues and other diseases that were well nigh universal. The accounts that came back were harrowing in the extreme, and the suffering indisputably great. Nevertheless I determined, when opportunity offered, that I would take the risk, and pass from the timbered regions in which I had always dwelt, into the prairie country which I had never seen.

May 21, 1845, I took steamer at Cleveland, for Milwaukee, in Wisconsin Territory, reaching that port five days later. As the stages across the territory were only semi-weekly, and a delay of three days would be required, I hired a horse, and made the trip to Madison on horse-back, following a road that was most of the way little else than a mere trail. Settlements were very few, and farm houses from ten to twenty miles apart.

Madison was at that time a hamlet, located in a young forest or thicket,



the houses few, and mainly built on the south and east side of the square. Three roads only crossed the site, and no visible improvements of any kind marked or marred the shores of the lakes. I met here for the first time since leaving Little Falls, N. Y., J. A. Noonan, Esq., and was by him introduced to the territorial officials, judges of the U. S. Court, and many others. I found two or three old associates already settled here. Three days later, I proceeded in a private conveyance, to Mineral Point, and from thence by stage to Galena. Remained there about ten days, and decided to establish a paper—as the law practice of the time was very peculiar in its kind, as well as overdone.

Returned to Milwaukee, and by boat to Cleveland, reaching home about the first of July. From thence a few days later, I visited Columbus, to attend a political state and editorial convention. Received strong political endorsements from Senators William Allen, Benj. Tappan, Col. Medary, and others, and from the editorial convention, and returned to Elyria. Spent a few weeks in packing my office and household material, and with my brother, H. W., who had just graduated at the University of Vermont, and my brother-in-law, W. F. Chaney, in September, took steamer for Chicago, which was reached in about a week.

Arrived at Chicago, procured teams after a short delay, and just one week later reached Galena. The novelty of this trip caused our party real regret at getting through so soon.

In October, by aid of friends, myself and brother, under the firm name of H. A. & H. W. TENNEY, established the tri-weekly and weekly *Galena Jeffersonian*, and soon made it a success. Our main reliance for news at that period was upon St. Louis papers. In the summer season half a dozen steamers, or more, arrived daily. In the winter we had to depend on stages.

Our New York news varied from two weeks to a month old, according to the season. The city was then the great depot for all the lead region. Digging or prospecting for lead in the form of ore, or melting lead into pigs, comprised nearly the whole industry of the country—a vast trade indeed, but concentrated in comparatively few hands. With the exception of garden vegetables, nearly all supplies were brought from the south. The prospector and miner were lords of the time. Agriculture had as yet not taken root. The Mexican war, which broke out in the spring of 1846, by the excitement it created, added largely to our subscription lists, and for a time we deemed ourselves on the highway to competence.

But there was an enemy we had not fully calculated upon. That was sickness. Never having been unwell a day in our lives, that important feature was overlooked. By the middle of summer of that year, probably one-half of the population was prostrated. To meet a well person was an exception.



I was first of our force to succumb, and for near two months was confined to the house. Then my brother had a turn, and one after another our workmen, and we were soon compelled to send off for assistance. A few months of this kind of life decided me, at any sacrifice, to get away from the vicinity of the Mississippi river.

Our bright prospects had suddenly grown dim. We lived in a sea of poisonous miasma, and could not hope to escape except by removal.

Very tempting offers were made to induce us to locate in Springfield, Ill., but receiving in November a proposition to enter into business in Madison, I decided to accept it, and about the first of December transferred my interest in the *Jeffersonian*, and purchased an interest in the *Wisconsin Argus*, under the firm name of "Tenney, Smith & Holt." My brother soon after closed out our business at Galena, and settled down as a law-student in Milwaukee.

I reported for a few weeks the proceedings of the first Constitutional Convention, which was in session when I arrived. In February following, I was elected by the Legislature, Territorial Printer, and again re-elected at its last session in 1848. H. W. Tenney, John Y. Smith, David Lambert, and myself reported the Journal and Debates of the second Constitutional Convention. The Constitution was adopted by the people in April, and the territory admitted by Congress as a State, in June 1848. I continued to be, directly or indirectly, contractor for the state printing up to 1852, the firm meanwhile having been changed, in 1851, to "Carpenter & Tenney"—Stephen D. Carpenter having bought out the interests of my associates. Owing to failing health I decided to quit the business, at least for a season. The chill fever fastened upon me at Galena, I may as well say, was not finally shaken off until 1855, and I have not even yet fully recovered from its effects, or of the medicine taken to get rid of it.

In 1848 the State University was organized, and I was appointed by the Board of Regents, at their first meeting, agent to collect a cabinet; and later, Curator and Librarian. My subsequent efforts in behalf of the institution were quite successful.

In 1850, in company with three others, I made a trip of six weeks duration through the then unsurveyed country of what is now Jackson, Juncau, Monroe, and La Crosse counties, meeting with but two or three persons in the valley of the Lemonweir river, and passing down the valley of the La Crosse near to its mouth, without discovering a mark of human existence, other than an Indian trail. From this stream we followed a wilderness south for about ninety miles, to Prairie du Chien, and returned to Madison by way of Grant county, on the "old military road." The balance of the season I passed mostly in a trip to the Atlantic cities, on behalf of the University.

In the spring of 1852, I entered into partnership with John Wright, in the drug business, which association continued about one year.

In 1853 I was appointed Assistant State Geologist, by Gov. Farwell, and in connection with Prof. Edward Daniels, spent several months in the field in the south-west counties of the State. On his removal in 1854, I assisted for a short time, Prof. James G. Percival in the same capacity, as a volunteer.

From 1850 to about 1856, I was annually elected either president or trustee of the village, and in that capacity superintended the clearing of nearly every street of its original forest growth, building the first side and cross-walks, and, generally, commencing all the first improvements in drainage, excavation, etc., pertaining to the present city of Madison.

In September, 1853, I selected the saline land-grant of seventy-two sections, for the University, under direction of Simeon Mills, mainly in the then little known region of what is now Pierce county.

During all this period, and for some years after, the politics of the State were intensely personal and bitter, in all of which I was forced to take a part more or less prominent. This led, in 1854, to establishing the *Wisconsin Patriot*, in company with J. T. Marston, for the purpose of breaking up a combination known as the "Forty Thieves," for whose acts Wm. A. Barstow, as Governor, was unavoidably held responsible. Health failing, I soon withdrew from the paper, which passed into the hands of Mr. S. D. Carpenter; but I did not fail thereafter to make my pen felt in a manner by no means acceptable to opponents. The end was the total overthrow of the Governor and those attached to his fortunes; and, as the result proved, the election of a successor in no respect an improvement on the score of honesty.

In the fall of 1855, I removed two miles west of the Capitol, on to a small farm, out-door life having become indispensable to health, and have ever since kept my residence there.

In 1856 I was elected a member of Assembly, and in that capacity, aided by my associates, introduced and helped secure the passage of a bill for the erection of the new State Capitol, and also for the Insane Hospital and central edifice of the State University, a building whose erection I subsequently superintended until completed. I served as chairman of three important committees, was elected a member of the Board of Regents, and was made one of three of a joint annual Investigating Committee. The bill creating a fund for Normal Schools, passed at this session. I had the pleasure of materially aiding it.

In the spring of 1857 I visited New York on business connected with the Madison & Watertown railroad, by which I had been for some

time employed. The financial panic of the year, however, ended all efforts in that direction.

In 1858 I was made clerk of the Joint Committee to investigate the corruption and bribery of the Legislature of 1854, in the bestowal of the Land Grant to the La Crosse & Milwaukee Rail Road Company. The exposure was thorough and complete.

In April I was appointed Comptroller of the State Treasury, by Gov. A. W. Randall, and filled that position until the office was vacated by decision of the Supreme Court, in 1859. My time until 1861 was passed in the discharge of various official duties, writing for the press, and ordinary avocations. I recall no event worthy of special record during this period.

In April, 1861, at the request of Gov. Randall, I took charge of Camp Randall, and the preparation and fitting out of Wisconsin regiments for the field. The details of this laborious but thankless work would fill an ordinary volume. Let it suffice to say, then, that I attended, in almost every minutiae, to the equipment of the 2d, 5th, 6th, 7th, 8th, 11th, 12th, 15th, 16th, 17th, and a part of the 23d regiments, and several companies of sharpshooters and detachments, preparatory to their leaving the state; and in that capacity, without knowing it, having never up to that time met with the Army Regulations, performed, in effect, all the ordinary duties of a Quarter-master, Commissary, Store-keeper, Paymaster, Recruiting Officer, and even to a certain extent those of Medical Inspector, as I had at times a large number of sick left on my hands; and, besides attended to the proper burial of all who died while I was in charge of the camp. By the first of January, 1862, when relieved, probably 15,000 men had been prepared and equipped from this encampment, and nearly all transferred to active duties in the field in the various armies then moving on the south.

In July, 1862, I was commissioned as Paymaster U. S. A., by President Lincoln, and ordered to report for duty at Indianapolis. From thence I was ordered back to Wisconsin to expedite the movements of several new regiments. The multitude of sick, wounded and disabled returning home on discharge papers, leaves of absence, or detachment service, was so great that I was ordered to open an office for local payments, and was kept busy at that labor until the next spring.

In May 1863, I was relieved, and ordered south, reporting at St. Louis to the Chief of the Department of the Mississippi. From thence I proceeded to Vicksburgh, the siege of which had just previously commenced. Engaged in this hazardous work in the trenches and at Black River Bridge until the 2d of July, when I received orders to return at once up the river. On the morning of the 4th was in the battle of Helena, Ark. Reached Madison, sick with the "Yazoo fever," on the 10th. Of nineteen of us who left the



Head Quarter's Pay Boat, but ten survived six weeks later, and they were all sick. Reported for duty again about the first of August, and was ordered to Memphis, from whence I was sent to Corinth, to pay in the Army of the Tennessee. Returning to St. Louis, was in October ordered to the Department of the Gulf, with head-quarters at New Orleans. After payments at Baton Rouge and many other points, was sent to Opelousas, and was in the sharp action at Carrion Crow, Nov. 3, 1863. Returning, was ordered to the Rio Grande, at Brownsville, where I was when the year closed. Left the service in July, 1864.

In 1865 I was appointed to take charge of the mail service in Michigan and Wisconsin, and incidentally of Minnesota and Dakota. During the three and a half years following, my labors were exclusively devoted to this service, traveling as I did, nearly the whole time over the wide area assigned me.

In 1869 I visited Omaha, with the purpose of finding a new location. Not fancying the country as far as seen, in November I proceeded to Carthage, Missouri, where my eldest son had commenced practice as a lawyer. No rail-roads had as yet penetrated that region, and I made examination of much of the country about, and in Kansas, with reference to opening a land agency, with every prospect of a large business.

Returning to Madison, I found nearly my whole family sick, and to add to the troubles of the situation, my second daughter, IDA, on a visit to St. Louis, died suddenly after a very brief illness. Finding the enterprise broken up, I went to Chicago in the spring of 1870, as assistant editor of the *Republican*, remaining until October, when it changed hands.

In February following, (1871) I was employed as assistant editor of the *Chicago Post*. The great fire, which in October swept away a large part of the city, terminated my business there, with the exception of about a month's writing on the same paper in December following.

In June, 1872, I was employed as political editor of the *St. Paul Pioneer*, in which occupation I remained until April 30, 1874, when the establishment changed hands.

From May 1, 1874, to the date of this writing, I have filled the position Chief Clerk of the Rail Road Commission of Wisconsin.

During all my career in the west, upon whatever work engaged, I have written largely for the press. This especially for the *Wisconsin State Journal*, and as correspondent of the *Milwaukee News, Sentinel*; *Chicago Journal, Times*, etc. My articles of this kind during the past thirty years probably number thousands. In that period Madison has had no paper to whose columns I have not liberally contributed. I have enjoyed a personal, and generally intimate and confidential acquaintance, with every territorial



and state Governor, officer, congressman, judges of courts, and the members of nearly every legislature, since the first organization of the government, as well as all public men in any way conspicuous during this period; and by writing and otherwise, have at times had something to do in shaping the course of administration. This grew naturally from so long a connection with the press, and the political issues at different periods, which changed Democrats to Republicans, and Republicans to Democrats, according to affinity or predilection. In my older age I note many mistakes committed and errors that might have been avoided; but the general average will, I think, pass a critical inspection. On such a field, not to have occasionally gone amiss would have been not human. I make no pretences to infallibility.

This is my life-track and record—such as it is. The experiences of the descendants of our families will be wholly different from ours. The days of pioneer life are almost over, and cannot be renewed in this country.

JULIETTE P. TENNEY, wife of H. A. TENNEY, was the youngest daughter of CHARLES CHANEY, Esq., of Elyria, Lorain County, Ohio, and of SUSAN VAN GORDER, his wife. Mr. Chaney was born April 15, 1792, about four miles below Pittsburgh, Pa.—the place being then generally known as Fort Pitt—or Fort Duquesne as named by its French occupants, previous to the conquest of Canada. His father was John Chaney, born in Ireland, and five years of age when the family emigrated and settled in Susquehanna county, Pa. His mother, Ann Elliot, was also born in Ireland, and eighteen months old when the family first emigrated. She was raised in Weston, Pa. They were married at Fort Pitt in 1788.

SUSAN VAN GORDER, wife of Charles Chaney, was a daughter of Abraham Van Gorder, and of Lucy Love, his wife. His ancestors were from Holland. He was born in the state of Delaware. The ancestry of his wife was English. She was born in the State of New Jersey. They were married November 17, 1784, at Sandiston, Sussex County, N. J.

SUSAN was born at the Shawnee Flats, Susquehanna river, Pa., July 10, 1783, and married to Charles Chaney in Suffield, Portage County, Ohio, Dec. 5, 1816, by Rev. Mr. Woodruff, of Talmadge, in the same county.

Mr. Chaney died at Elyria, O., July 31, 1874.

Two children alone survive—W. F. Chaney, of Sandusky, O., born in Mansfield, Ohio, Sept. 9, 1822, and Juliette, wife of H. A. Tenney.

HORACE A. TENNEY, and JULIETTE, his wife, married Dec. 5, 1843, in Elyria, Lorain Co., Ohio. Had children as follows:

ANN ELIZA TENNEY, born in Elyria, Ohio, May, 4, 1845.

CHARLES KENT TENNEY, born April 19, 1848.

FRANCES IDA TENNEY, born Nov. 15, 1851. Died in St. Louis, Mo., Feb. 27, 1870, while on a temporary visit to her sister.

GEORGE AUGUSTUS TENNEY, born Mar. 15, 1854.

HORACE ATWOOD TENNEY, born Feb. 14, 1857.

JULIETTE JESSIE TENNEY, born July 21, 1860.

ARTHUR RANDALL TENNEY, born Dec. 28, 1862.

WILLIAM FRANKLIN TENNEY, born Dec. 26, 1866.

All but the first named were born in the village or town of Madison, Wis. The city was incorporated in 1856, since which the family homestead has been in the town—one mile west of the University.

ANN ELIZA TENNEY married Col. CHARLES H. JACKSON, at Madison, Wis. June 5, 1866. Have children as follows:

IDA MAY JACKSON, born in St. Louis, Mo., Dec. 27, 1869.

CHARLES TENNEY JACKSON, born in St. Louis, Mo., October 15, 1874.

Col. Jackson entered the military service during the late rebellion as a private, and after passing through all grades of promotion, was made Colonel of the 18th Wisconsin Infantry, which he commanded until mustered out of service at the close of the contest. He took part in every battle in which the regiment was engaged during a period of more than four and a half years duration, and only retired when it was disbanded, after passing through some of the most sanguinary collisions of the war.

The family has resided in St. Louis since 1863, and that is its present location.

CHARLES KENT TENNEY, married ANNA BALDWIN, Sept. 28, 1870, at Janesville, Wis. Have children as follows:

CHARLES H. TENNEY, born Aug. 1, 1871.

FRED. B. TENNEY, born Sept. 15, 1872; died Oct. 9, 1872.

WILLIE D. TENNEY, born Oct. 31, 1873. All born in Madison, Wis.

ANNA, wife of CHARLES, was a daughter of Jonathan and Eliza Baldwin, born in Everett, Mass., April 26, 1847.

CHARLES has been for several years engaged in successful law practice, as member of the firm of Lewis & Tenney, Madison, Wis.

GEORGE AUGUSTUS TENNEY, born March 15, 1854. After many years schooling, passed a two years course in the University of Wisconsin, chiefly in the chemical department, to fit himself as a druggist. The past six years of his life have been mainly passed in that business, in the store of Messrs. Dunning & Sumner, of Madison, in which he is now employed.

The other children are at home attending school.

## HENRY W. TENNEY.

HENRY W. TENNEY says as follows:

I was born on the 2d day of January, 1822, on Grand Isle, in Lake Champlain, belonging to Vermont. When about five years old, our family removed to Plattsburg, N. Y. Our father was in moderate circumstances, and it was the fashion in those days for boys to work, so when I was nine or ten years old I was set at work in a cotton factory, and worked there a year or more. In the fall of 1833, I went on foot to Keeseville, N. Y., some sixteen miles, to learn the printing trade, in the office of the *Keeseville Intelligencer*. I worked there till the next spring, when the paper was discontinued, and I went back to Plattsburg, and worked in the office of the *Whig* till the spring of 1835, when our family moved to Ohio, and I went with them.

On the way, our brother Myron became dangerously sick, and we had to stop all summer in Little Falls, N. Y., where Myron died. While there I worked a short time in the office of the *Mohawk Courier*, then published by J. A. Noonan, the same who afterwards lived in Milwaukee. In the fall of 1835, the family, except HORACE, went on and settled in Laporte, Lorain Co. Ohio. I stayed at home about a year, and then went to work in a printing office in Elyria, three miles distant. I now began to think of getting an education, and was encouraged thereto by the precept and example of B. J., who was then in college. I went to work to fit myself for college by studying after working hours, and I pursued it with the utmost diligence, rarely going to bed before midnight. I had no instructors, and no acquaintances from whom I could get any direction or assistance. I slept in the office, and had to work till 9 o'clock at night half the year. Nevertheless I made good progress. In the winter of 1839-40 I taught a district school in the town of Avon, "boarding around," in the manner of those days. In April, 1840, I went to Burlington, Vt., where I was intending to enter college, and set type in the book office of Chauncey Goodrich till the fall term commenced, rooming in college with my brother, B. J., till he graduated in that summer, and pursuing my studies with all possible vigor, for I was insufficiently prepared. I entered college in the fall of 1840, and continued there for three years, teaching school in the winters at Colchester, Essex, and Charlotte. At the end of three years I had to stay out a year to earn money enough to get through, for I had to pay my own way. My brother, HORACE, was then publishing the *Lorain Republican*, at Elyria, Ohio, and I spent a year with him as foreman and associate editor. I did considerable writing for the paper, and there first learned to "wield the runes."

At the end of a year I returned to Burlington and completed my college course, earning something by writing for the press meanwhile. I graduated in the summer of 1845, and immediately went with HORACE to Galena, Ill.,



to publish a newspaper. We established the semi-weekly *Galena Jeffersonian*, and run it with great eclat. We had new type throughout, and as we had both worked at the business from childhood, and in all departments of it, we were very competent to use them to advantage. We never wrote our editorials, but set them up with our own hands *out of our heads*. The paper was a great success, and we received many compliments from our brethren.

Galena was at that time the real metropolis of the northwest. There were no railroads or telegraphs, and all the communications were with the South, St. Louis, by the river. Chicago was a distant village, scarcely felt as a rival. The exciting news of the Mormon troubles and the Mexican war was first brought by steamboats, and we had the first chance at it.

For a year everything went swimmingly, but then an intolerable season of fever and ague set in, and most of the people in the country had it, we among the rest, having never before known disease. Our workmen, too, nearly all had it, and it was almost impossible to continue operations. After standing it two or three months, the sentiment of "Life let us cherish" became predominant, and we sold out, and left the borders of "Fever River" on the 1st of January, 1847. HORACE had quit and gone to Madison two months before.

I had never intended to remain permanently in the printing business, and I now took hold of the law. I went to Milwaukee and studied law in the office of Gen. (afterwards Judge) Hubbell, having studied some previously.

I spent the winters for two or three succeeding years at Madison, reporting the proceedings of the legislature for the *Madison Argus*, which HORACE was then publishing. I also helped report the proceedings of the constitutional convention, which was printed in book form.

In 1848 I was admitted to the bar, and on the 1st of July, of that year, I went into partnership with John P. McGregor, at Milwaukee, and continued in practice with him till 1854.

I was married on the 18th of October, 1852, to HANNAH SCHENKBERG, and we immediately went to keeping house, and have done the same ever since. In the spring of 1854 we moved to Portage City, Wis., and I continued the practice of the law there till 1860. I made some fortunate land speculations in Portage, and was one of the proprietors of "Dunn, Haskell & Tenney's Addition," of 160 acres, on which a considerable part of the city is built. I was city attorney, and also alderman there. I built a nice house, and thought I was comfortably fixed for life. But the crash of 1857 dispelled the illusion, and on the 1st of July, 1860, I went to Madison and entered into partnership with my brother, D. K. We had an extensive and profitable practice there for the succeeding ten years. I was city attorney



two years during that time. In 1870 we both removed to Chicago, where we have been in practice together ever since, the firm now being Tenneys, Flower & Abercrombie.

Our office was burned in the great fire of 1871, and the discomforts of the succeeding year are not easily forgotten. But the fire was a benefit rather than an injury to us. We have done a large and profitable business here; but there is nothing in law practice that can furnish incidents for such a sketch as this. I have never held any office, with the trifling exception above referred to, and have never wanted to, always believing I could do better without. In my early printing experience, I became disgusted with politicians and political figuring, and, happily, I have never got over it. In the first half of my voting life, I usually voted with the Democratic party, and in the last half, with the Republican, never being very enthusiastic either way. I have never belonged to any church, and have had no particular preference among the different mythologies. The actual business of life, and the proper studies and preparations for it, have seemed to me to be the things to which attention ought to be supremely devoted.

I now live with my wife and four children, in my own house, No. 1018 Wabash Ave., Chicago, Ill. H. W.

HANNAH, wife of H. W. TENNEY, was born on the 5th day of July, 1826, in the city of New York. On the 12th of February, 1846, she was married in New York to Bernard Schenckberg. In September, 1849, Mr. Schenckberg was run over by the cars at New Buffalo, Mich., and killed. They had two children, both of whom died soon after. On the 18th of October, 1852, she was married to H. W. TENNEY, at Milwaukee. Her maiden name was CADLE. Her father, Samuel Cadle, was born in New York city, on the 4th of December, 1800, and lived there till his death, July 2d, 1840. His father, Cornelius, was born in England. Her mother's maiden name was Elizabeth Perry. She was born in London, England, on the 7th day of May, 1799. They had three children, two of whom only are living, Hannah, and Elizabeth, the latter being the wife of Thomas A. Greene, of Milwaukee.

The children of HENRY W. and HANNAH TENNEY, are as follows:

ELIZABETH CADLE TENNEY.—She was born on the 1st of November, 1853, at Milwaukee, and died on the 12th day of November, 1855, at Portage City.

ELLEN LIVINGSTONE TENNEY.—She was born on the 24th day of September, 1855, at Portage City, Wisconsin. She is now living at home in Chicago.

HENRY CADLE TENNEY.—He was born on the 7th day of November, 1857, at Portage City, and is now at home, fitting for college at Douglas University, Chicago.

HORACE KENT TENNEY.—He was born on the 11th day of September, 1859, at Portage City, and is now at home, fitting for college at Douglas University.

ANNA LIVINGSTONE TENNEY.—She was born on the 7th day of November, 1869, in the city of Madison, Wis., and is now at home.

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MARIA E. TENNEY.

MARIA E. TENNEY, married January 14, 1847, to JAMES W. WAGGONER, of Galena, Ill. Had children as follows:

MARY E. WAGGONER, born Apr. 29, 1848.

CHARLES M. WAGGONER, born Dec. 6, 1849.

GEORGE H. WAGGONER, born Sept. 6, 1851.

ELLEN J. WAGGONER, born Sept. 14, 1853.

WILLIAM M. WAGGONER, born Sept. 22, 1855; died Sept 6, 1856.

WILBUR F. WAGGONER, born Aug. 10, 1857; died Nov. 4, 1857.

HORACE K. WAGGONER, born Nov. 22, 1858; died July 25, 1860.

ALBERT F. WAGGONER, born Oct. 21, 1860.

ALICE E. WAGGONER, born May 26, 1863.

FRANK L. WAGGONER, born March 21, 1868.

FLORENCE E. WAGGONER, born Mar. 12, 1870; died June 29, 1870.

All born in Moline, Rock Island Co., Ill.

The following are the marriages of children:

CHARLES M. WAGGONER, to ANGELINE DOZIER, Feb., 1872. Reside at Climax, Kansas.

MARY E. WAGGONER, to DERASTUS HOLMES, June, 1872. Reside at Thayer, Kansas.

GEORGE H. WAGGONER, to VICTORIA COLLINS, Feb., 1873. Reside at Plattsburgh, Mo.

ELLEN J. WAGGONER, to E. B. HINMAN, January, 1874. Reside at Humboldt, Kansas.

The family emigrated to Kansas in the spring and summer of 1871, and now reside near Thayer, Wilson Co.

JAMES W. WAGGONER was born in Union Co., Pa., June 5, 1821; emigrated to Illinois in 1845. In August, 1862, he enlisted as a private in the

129th Reg't of Ill. Infantry, and served in the army of the Cumberland, most of the time in Tennessee. Promoted to Lieutenant, July, 1864, in the 4th U. S. A. colored, and mustered out at Little Rock, Arkansas, Feb. 28, 1866, after three and a half years service.

### ELECTA TENNEY.

ELECTA TENNEY was born in Plattsburgh, N. Y., March 7, 1830, and accompanied the family to Laporte, Ohio, in 1835. She received her education at the common schools in the backwoods of that region. She was an apt scholar, and early mastered all the branches of learning taught in those schools, and became herself a successful teacher in them. A maiden bashfulness was the distinguishing characteristic of her youth, and has not been effaced by accumulated years. Instead of seeking and cultivating friends, she has always rather avoided it, and held herself above and independent of them. Her surroundings have never been equal to herself. She has ever had a lively appreciation of this fact, and hence has not the amiability and cleverness of the other children. Her experience of life has been wide and varied. She possesses a kind heart, good practical sense, and a keen and comprehensive knowledge. In patience and quiet endurance under difficulties, and in the vigorous determination to surmount them, she has no superior in the family.

October 21, 1855, she was married at Laporte, to NELSON E. MILLS, an enterprising young farmer of the vicinity, and soon after they removed to Iowa. In 1859, when the Pike's Peak gold fever broke out, they journeyed across the plains to Colorado. After a rough and trying experience of several years in the various mining regions and mountains of that locality, they settled down on a handsome ranche near Denver, where they now reside.

Her husband, Mr. MILLS, is a man of strong native sense, which, with the cultivation of experience and extensive reading, has developed him into a thrifty farmer, a true gentleman, and a philosopher. They have no children, but otherwise are surrounded by the blessings and comforts of life, and with an ample competence for the needs of advancing age.

From a letter of Mrs. Mills, of recent date, I copy so much as relates to the first trip over the great plains; the then condition of that country; and some of the after experiences. She says:

"In regard to my trip to this country, I will say that it was not as dull and uninteresting to me as you might imagine. Many amusing as well as instructive incidents occurred to make it pleasant. We passed on the way



out, immense herds of buffaloes and antelopes, and the men of our party—forty in number—had nice times shooting them. We camped and dried a large quantity of the meat, which I thought was equal to dried beef. Passed almost daily through almost any amount of prairie dog towns, where we saw in many of the holes, owls and rattlesnakes living with the dogs, seemingly as contented as members of one family.

Reached Denver July 18, 1859, having been two months on the road. The place, now a city of twenty thousand inhabitants, had then about a dozen log cabins, with pole and sod roofs. A wagon box set up on end served for a door, and a hole in the wall with a flour sack tacked in, answered the purpose of a window. Those who were fortunate enough to have a carpet, had it fastened to the ground with wooden pins. There was not then a foot of lumber in the country, but it was not long before we had saw mills in plenty, supplied by logs cut from the mountains.

We worked at placer mining a couple of years, then took a trip to New Mexico to prospect some mines, and then returned and stayed one winter in Montgomery, a silver mining district at the foot of Mt. Lincoln, eleven thousand feet above the level of the sea. Many and many times we saw thunder storms far below in the mountains, while the sun shone perfectly clear where we were.

In the San Juan valley in the southern part of the territory, there are large boiling springs which I visited twelve years ago. In the largest, water is hot enough to cook eggs. Several smaller ones near have differing temperatures—some hot, others milk-warm—while a cold spring is close by. The steam escaping from these springs can be seen one or two miles distant, and the smell of sulphur forcibly reminds one of the Plutonic regions.

We settled in the valley of the Platte river twelve years ago, and since then have been engaged in farming. As this is an arid region, with little rain during the growing season, we are obliged to irrigate with water taken from a ditch in a canyon of the Platte. Although the country has been full of Indians, we have never been molested by them. I regret greatly that I had not preserved a Journal of my various trips, made at the time, but destroyed a few years ago. If preserved, I could have furnished you many interesting and amusing incidents."

NELSON E. MILLS was born in the town of Eaton, Lorain Co., Ohio, July 28, 1827.

WILLIAM MILLS, father of NELSON, was born in Vermont in 1796. His wife was MATILDA NEWPORT, born in 1800. They were married in 1819.



## ELLEN TENNEY.

It may be truly said that of the ten TENNEY children, no two have possessed more than a remote resemblance to their parents or to one another, either in personal appearance, taste, or characteristics. Each has developed a decided and striking individuality. And so Ellen was peculiar to herself. Beauty has not favored our family, yet she was an exceedingly handsome girl. At twenty she still bore in ample locks the light flaxen hair of childhood, and this, with her fine forehead, rosy cheeks, laughing eyes, and well rounded form, made her the blonde beauty of the neighborhood. She was endowed with a mild and amiable temper, quick perception, and keen wit. A natural scholar, she grasped as by intuition, all knowledge within her reach. She possessed a remarkable memory, and elocutionary and musical powers of a high degree, and used to delight us all with her apt recitations of poetry. Gifted with a fine imagination, she had developed a real genius as a writer both of prose and verse. Like all the family, she had to support herself from an early age, and school-teaching was to her a congenial and natural vocation. She excelled as a teacher, and was thus engaged at the Female Seminary in Norwalk, Ohio, when, from a sudden cold caught at an unfavorable period, she met an untimely death, and was sincerely mourned. From childhood up, everyone who knew her was strongly attached to her. She seemed to live and die in an atmosphere of love.

Her remains rest by the side of our father and grandmother at Laporte.

## DANIEL KENT TENNEY,

The tenth and last child of my parents. I was born at Plattsburgh, N. Y., December 31st, 1834, and was removed with them to Ohio when less than a year old. For these two important events in my history I hold them responsible. The balance may be laid to me.

My first recollections associate me with a large number of like yellow-haired urchins, bare-footed, bare-legged, and bare-headed, clad in solitary *warmuses* of home-spun, woven by our mothers, and devoting our time to hunting squirrels and woodchucks in the dense forests, or killing snakes, catching chubs and horned dace, or hunting crabs and clams in the Black river, at Laporte, Ohio. I was placed in school at the age of four to keep me out of mischief, and well remember the unpleasant discipline of the first day. It appears I soon developed a genius for orthography, for at the age of eight, two neighboring schools, numbering about 150 pupils, held a competitive "spelling school," in which I overcame them all in demonstrat-

ing a familiarity with Webster's Elementary Spelling Book. I shall never forget the pride of my parents and myself at this evidence of precocity. They soon determined however that my knowledge should be put to some use, and that I should go into a printing office to learn the trade. This I did not like so well.

My brothers, HORACE and HENRY, were publishing a newspaper at Elyria, three miles from our home, and I was placed with them. By dint of much candy and an occasional threshing I was kept at work there for two years, and at the end of the time could set "a column a day." About that time they went west and I returned home and attended school again until I was twelve years old, when my parents desired to get me into another printing office, where I might assist myself through college. An arrangement was made by my father with the proprietors of the *Oberlin Evangelist*, whereby I was to work for them for my board, clothes and tuition at the Oberlin college for a term of six years. I however refused to attend that institution because I did not enjoy the Grahamite fodder then insisted upon there, and particularly because I had heard that the faculty had expelled students for using tobacco. I did not then use the weed and never expected to, and had no vicious habits, but I regarded good habits and bad ones, like all other American institutions, free and open to all. It is a matter of surprise to me now, that at so early an age I took such a rebellious and bold position about a matter that I knew so little of. My father was then obliged to make arrangements elsewhere, and did so, much more to his and my satisfaction, with the proprietors of the *Ohio Observer*, at Hudson, Ohio. There I was to work four years; eight months in each year, for my board, and twenty-eight dollars the first year, fifty-six the second, ninety-six the third, and one hundred and forty-four the fourth, and attend the preparatory department of the Western Reserve College four months in each year, by which time it was calculated I would be a self-sustaining institution, and could get through the regular course without difficulty.

I kept my part of this contract faithfully for two years, working twelve hours a day, and became a good printer; but the old "skinflint" who ran the paper did not keep his. He refused to allow me to attend the college at all. He was a very religious man, and spent hours on his knees daily, but he abused me shamefully, and I never thought his soul worth saving.

With the remnant of the eighty-four dollars I had received for my two years' work, and some other funds furnished me by my brother HORACE, I embarked at Cleveland and went around the lakes to Milwaukee, and thence to Madison, where I arrived at the age of fifteen with an exchequer of a quarter of a dollar in hand.

At Madison, my brother gave me a case in the office of the *Wisconsin Ar-*

gus, where I worked Saturdays, and vacations, (and oftentimes Sundays) and attended the University of Wisconsin. He furnished me also a free scholarship at that institution. I attended the University two years, and then went to Cleveland, Ohio, and worked a year as a journeyman-printer in the office of the *Plain Dealer*. Returning to Madison, I continued at the University, boarding myself on most scanty fare, until, in the latter part of the Sophomore year, for some trifling indiscretion, I was expelled. The offense was called contumacy, in that I refused to disclose to the faculty the name of a fellow-student engaged with me in perpetrating a bit of mischief. My expulsion, and the rule of discipline it implied, gave rise to a unanimous rebellion of the students. They refused obedience to the rule, and resolved firmly as a body, to leave the institution unless I was restored, and the rule abrogated. Much to my surprise, the faculty succumbed, the rule was abolished, and I was restored to honorable standing. I was intensely aroused by this affair, and refused to be comforted. I never returned, but determined that I would seek fortune alone, without rank or sheepskin.

I have been thus particular in sketching the experiences of my boyhood and youth, because I regard them as the matrix in which to a great extent was moulded my subsequent life, and the true index to it. If our children or children's children shall read these pages, I want them to remember and know, that the school of early poverty, adversity, and patient labor, which the TENNEYS have passed through, is the true one to test the mettle of men, and far better to enable them to fight the battle of life, than an ample patrimony and the most brilliant attainments in scholastic lore. Every body claims to know this, but in fact few appreciate it.

My expulsion from college was to me the note of battle. Notwithstanding my restoration, I felt that I was disgraced without cause, and I determined, that had I any powers in me—of which I had great doubt—I would put them to the test, and demonstrate to the faculty as well as to my fellow students, that there was more than one way to success. This idea, right or wrong, nerved me for a number of years. I had always intended to be an editor of a newspaper. I, however, had been frequently advised by my brother HENRY, that journalism was unreliable and unsatisfactory business. Accepting this advice, which was much more valuable to me than I then appreciated, I determined to become a lawyer; and, first, I accepted a place as foreman of the *State Journal* office at Madison, in which I remained until I had accumulated a little money to pay my expenses while reading law. I then read law one year in the office of my brother HENRY, at Portage City, Wisconsin. Afterwards continued reading at Madison for a year, holding the position of deputy clerk of the circuit court, which I found necessary to keep me in funds.



I was admitted to the bar, December 11, 1855, being a few days less than twenty-one years of age, and I was happy! On the same day I was taken into partnership with Thomas Hood, then a prominent lawyer at Madison, and was proud! Starting at that period without a dollar, I have never since been without plenty of business, and ample funds for my requirements.

In 1856, Judge Hood retired from practice, and soon after I associated with me, Charles T. Wakeley, then a promising young lawyer, as advocate. In 1860, I displaced him, and invited my brother Henry to join me, which he did.

During the Rebellion I was heart and soul, at home, for the Union, but I did not fight. At the time, it was conceded by my friends, and allowed by me, that ill-health, and the care of a couple of banks, in which I had a large interest, based on Southern State bonds, was a sufficient excuse for not enlisting. It is certain that had I entered the service, those banks would have ruined me financially. As it was I fought the Comptroller and saved myself. But since so many gallant fellows have come out of the war alive, covered with blood and glory, I confess I have wished I was one of them. During the war I took a sufficient furlough from my business at home, to endeavor for several months to enrich myself out of cotton, and the like, within the lines of our army, in Louisiana and Mississippi, but I did not enrich myself. The following year I endeavored again to make a sure thing of millions, by engaging in petroleum speculation in Pennsylvania. Transportation being scarce, I was unable to take away even the money I took in. The following year I again took a turn at the wheel of fortune, by organizing the Northwestern Accident Insurance Company, in which I held a large interest. I escaped the calamities which overtook this company, by the "skin of my teeth," and was about the only stockholder who survived. The failure of these several enterprises, while they did not seriously cripple me, afforded a valuable lesson in prudence, worth much more than the cost. It taught me to rely upon my legitimate business, and to avoid all roads to fortune which appeared to be easy, and I have done so.

In 1870, the practice of law at Madison appeared to be declining, and although we had always done and were doing a good business, yet I was not satisfied, but desired a larger field. Against the advice of my friends, I pulled up stakes, and went to Chicago, in partnership with John. J. McClellan. The success of our business there may be best judged from the fact that we realized \$15,000 from our first six months practice. I then invited my brother Henry to join us, which he did, thus both of us cutting loose from Madison. Soon after Mr. McClellan was deposed from the firm, and James M. Flower, a much better man, was put in his place. Our firm is now Tenneys, Flower & Abercrombie. Our business is not rivaled by



any concern there, either as to quantity, quality, or income. It has reached a point where we do not desire any further increase.

In 1856, I was married to Mary Jane Marston, at Madison, daughter of Jeremiah Thorndike Marston, and Miranda Cleves Dodge, his wife, formerly of Montpelier, Vermont. Mrs. Tenney is the same age as myself, is of medium stature and slight build, but is a strong and healthy woman. She is exceedingly domestic and simple in her tastes, and excels in the proprieties and economies of the household. She is kind and affectionate; a watchful mother, a true wife, and a helpmeet in every sense. In justice to myself and to her I cannot omit this slight compliment.

I have now reached the age of forty, and have been in the active practice of my profession for twenty years. Though I have been vigilant and sometimes cold-blooded in the discharge of my duties to clients, I am not conscious that I ever wronged any man. In my youth I was much exercised on the subject of religion, but upon careful study and reflection, I have since determined that to pay a hundred cents on the dollar, and deal honorably with all men, is religion enough for me. Neither supernatural revelations, nor miraculous interventions, commend themselves to my heart or judgment.

During the past ten years, either for business or recreation, I have traveled extensively, in all the states of the Union except five, and in all the territories except four, and have made the trip on the Mississippi river from the South-West Pass to St. Paul. In 1864 I visited Cuba. In 1873 made the tour of Europe. Having visited most of the principal cities and countries of the civilized world, and the mountains and plains of America, I have pretty nearly ceased to have curiosity for what remains.

Several years since, I became convinced that I was overtasking myself with incessant labor, and determined to spend two or three months each year, in exercise, recreation, and rest. The change has proved exceedingly favorable. I find that I can do more and better work in nine or ten months than in twelve.

Early in my career I learned that the secret to fortune is, "to make a dollar a day, and spend only seventy-five cents." I have endeavored to adhere to this rule as a matter of principle, and every year of my business life, notwithstanding speculative drawbacks, has shown a satisfactory surplus to its credit. In politics, I have always taken a lively interest as a Republican, yet at heart I despise both the politics and the politicians of the day. I cannot "crook the pregnant hinges of the knee, that thrift may follow fawning." I was once, for five years, an Alderman of the city of Madison, but have since reformed and don't count that! Otherwise I have never held office nor desired to.

I am five feet nine inches in stature, weigh one hundred and seventy-five pounds, and am bald-headed—a distinction not reached by any of our tribe that I know of.

With a good house, a good wife, two children, all in good health and condition, and a handsome store of accumulated shekels, I am, and ought to be, as happy and contented as falls to the lot of man. I am satisfied. I express only the desire that my bones and those of my family, in good time, may repose in the shades of Forest Hill Cemetery, at Madison.

Our children are:

JOHN TENNEY, born at Madison, May 15, 1860; now fifteen years of age, five feet ten inches in stature, and weighs one hundred and forty-five pounds. He is now in the preparatory department of the University of Wisconsin.

MARY TENNEY, born at Madison, April 2, 1863. Is now attending school in Chicago.

# THE KENT FAMILY.

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## FIRST GENERATION IN AMERICA.

For authentic information as to the earliest of the KENT families in America, I am indebted to the "Genealogical Dictionary of New England," and to the "Historical and Genealogical Register," published for a series of years—the first volume issued in 1844. To avoid repetition, reference will be made generally to volume and page, without repeating the whole title of the work referred to.

I am especially indebted to the Wisconsin Historical Society for the use of its collections in the preparation of the details of this work. Without them, much of the data could not have been obtained in any library in the west.

March 24, 1633, among the names of passengers who "took the oath of supremacy and allegiance, to pass for New England in the Mary and John, of London, Robert Sayres, master," I find two named RICHARD KENT. (Vol. IX. p. 267, Geneal. Reg.)

They landed at Ipswich, Mass., in 1634. It is not impossible that the ship touched at ports in North Carolina or Virginia, as vessels at that period followed a more southerly route than at present. It is supposed that the two were cousins.

March 4, 1635, one of the number, and probably the elder, was made a freeman, by the court sitting in Ipswich, Mass. The same year the two settled in Newbury. It would seem that the elder RICHARD had been married in England, and left a family behind, as either a daughter, or possibly a sister, came over a few years later, and settled with him.

The second RICHARD KENT was accompanied by his wife JANE, who died June 26, 1674. He then married JOANNA, widow of Nicholas Davidson, of Charleston, and died November 25, 1689, without children, devising his estate by will, to his nephew JOHN, probably a son of the first named RICHARD.

These are believed to be the first of the name settled in New England.\*

In 1652, a deed of a tract of land in Newbury, from John Wright to Tristram Coffin, describes one side of the estate as "bounded by RICHARD KENT's land," etc. The acknowledgement of the deed was taken before John Endicott, Governor.

## SECOND GENERATION.

JOHN KENT of Newbury, perhaps son of RICHARD, first named, married, March 13, 1666, SARAH WOODMAN.

They had children:

MARY, born January 25, 1668; died soon after.

RICHARD, born June 25, 1670; died young.

RICHARD, again, born January 17, 1673.

MARY, again, born October 24, 1674.

EMMA, born April 20, 1677.

HANNAH, born September 10, 1679.

REBECCA, born February 20, 1684.

JAMES, born March 5, 1686. (Geneal. Dic. of N. E., title "Kent.")

## THIRD GENERATION.

JOHN KENT, of Suffield, Connecticut,† probably son of John of Newbury, married, May 9, 1686, ABIGAIL, daughter of William Dudley.

They had children as follows:

MARY, born January 26, 1687; died young.

JOHN, born January 26, 1688.

ABIGAIL, born September 23, 1690.

DEBORAH, born August, 22, 1693.

DUDLEY, born October 23, 1695.

MARY, again, born October 29, 1697; died young.

DANIEL, born December 14, 1698.

ABNER, born June 7, 1701.

ELISHA, born July 9, 1704.

\*In the passenger list of the "William and John," of London, I find the name of JOSEPH KENT, "imbarqued for New England," in 1635, aged 23 years.

†Memoranda taken from the Birth Records of Suffield, Conn., by the Rev. CEPHAS H. KENT, of Ripton, Vt., in 1837, and kindly furnished me. It is not as complete as the records given in the Genealogical Dictionary of New England, for which reason I have followed the latter. The names and dates as far as they go, are substantially the same in each.



By a second wife, ABIGAIL WENCHEL, he had,

JOSEPH, born February 16, 1710.

NOAH, born April 28, 1714.

EXPERIENCE, born March 4, 1717.

JOHN KENT died April 11, 1721, leaving a widow and ten children, of whom one, ELISHA, was a minister, whose son MOSS,\* was the father of Hon. JAMES KENT, LL D., the distinguished jurist, late Chancellor of New York. —(Geneal. Dic.)

I have followed the genealogy in the above list with some hesitation, but still accept it as the best attainable. The conclusion of the author of the Genealogical Dictionary, as to JOHN KENT of Suffield being a son of JOHN KENT of Newbury, is based upon records of transfers of property, and of a letter which speaks of "my uncle RICHARD KENT." The name does not appear among the children born to JOHN and SARAH; but this may be accidental.

JOHN KENT of "Newberrie" is recorded as having taken the freeman's oath before Robert Pike, February 25, 1668. In 1678, JOHN KENT, Jr., is recorded as having taken the same oath. (Hist. and Geneal. Reg. Vol. VII., p. 350.)

In 1673, JOHN KENT and HANNAH, his wife, were admitted to full communion in the First Church in Charlestown, "by dismission from ye Church of Christ in Dedham." (Vol. XXIII, Hist. and Geneal. Reg. p. 436.)

In "An account of sundry English prisoners brought in from Louisburg, by Aylmer Gravill, in the schooner Brittanica," who were brought from Canada, I find the name of "WILLIAM KENT, taken at Pemaquid, of Pemaquid," October 6, 1748. (Hist. and Geneal. Reg. Vol. VI, p. 192-8.)

The subscribers to "Princes Chronology," were regarded as among the principal literati of New England about the year 1700. In the list I find the names of Capt. EBENEZER KENT, of Charlestown, JOHN KENT of Suffield, and GERSHAM TENNEY. (Hist. and Geneal. Reg. Vol. VI, p. 195-8.)

In a list of persons in captivity, August 7, 1757, taken at Fort William Henry, or in military operations near there, I find the name of JOHN KENT. (N. E. Hist. Reg.)

On a tombstone in the ancient burying-ground in Barrington, Rhode Island, the following inscription is found:

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\*Dr. Uriah Rodgers, physician of Norwalk, Connecticut, married Anna Lockwood, of Norwalk. Their eldest child and daughter married MOSS KENT, a graduate of Yale. They had three children: Hon. MOSS KENT, member of N. Y. Senate, member of Congress, etc., HANNAH, married to William Pitt Platt, of Plattsburgh, N. Y.; and Hon. JAMES KENT, LL D., who died in New York, Dec. 12, 1847, aged 84 years. Was Chief Justice of Supreme Court; for nine years Chancellor of the State, and author of the celebrated Commentaries on Law.—Hist. and Geneal. Reg. Vol. XIII. p. 61.

"Mrs. DESIRE KENT, wife of Mr. SAMUEL KENT, of Barrington, was the first English womans Gran daughter on New England. Died Feb. 8, A. D. 1762, aged 94 years."

On another stone,

"Ensign SAMUEL KENT, died 1737, aged 70."

It would seem from this that Mrs. DESIRE KENT's grandmother was claimed to have been in the yawl boat of the Mayflower, that landed the first female in New England.

The muster roll of Capt. John Goffe, and forty-four men of a scouting party, who served from "Aprill 24, 1746, to the 19th day of May following" contains the name of JOSIAH KENT. (Hist. and Geneal. Reg. Vol. XIV, p. 139.)

December 18, 1765, at a meeting held "opposite Liberty Tree," in Boston, "the town appointed a committee, consisting of Samuel Adams, John Rowe, Thomas Cushing, John Hancock, John Ruddock, Samuel Sewell, Joshua Henshaw, and BENJAMIN KENT, with authority to employ Jeremy Gridley, James Otis, and John Adams as counsel, to request Gov. Bernard to cause the courts of law to be opened again for public business." (Vol. XXII, Hist. and Geneal. Reg. p. 107.)

In 1756, in a list of the 5th Company of the 9th Massachusetts Regiment that served at the reduction of Louisburg, I find the name of JOSIAH KENT; and in the 10th Company, JONAS KENT.

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#### FOURTH GENERATION.

JOHN KENT, eldest son of JOHN and ABIGAIL, married MARY SMITH, date not given, but probably about 1709.

They had children to wit:

MOSES KENT, born September 25, 1710.

MARY KENT, born January 12, 1716.

JOHN KENT, born March 25, 1720.

MARY and THANKFUL KENT, born December 28, 1722.

CEPHAS KENT, born April 13, 1725.

AARON KENT, born May 19, 1729.

HANNAH KENT, born August 11, 1735.

JOHN KENT, father of this family, died June 24, 1737.

## FIFTH GENERATION.

CEPHAS KENT, third son of JOHN and MARY, married HANNAH SPENCER, May 20, 1747.

They had children as follows:

MARY KENT, born May 2, 1748.

JOHN KENT, born October 31, 1749.

HANNAH KENT, born December 12, 1751.

CEPHAS KENT, born April 2, 1754.

MOSES KENT, born April 2, 1756.

DANIEL KENT, born April 10, 1758.

MARY KENT, born March 1, 1760.

ALEXANDER KENT, born February 4, 1762.

DEBORAH KENT, born October 22, 1766.

MARTIN KENT, born December 5, 1769.

CEPHAS KENT and family removed to Dorset, Vt., about 1776. The town was organized in 1764, while the territory which now composes the state was claimed by both New York and New Hampshire. He was its first representative in the state legislature.\* He died December 5, 1809, in the 85th year of his age. HANNAH, his wife, died November 5, 1821, in the 95th year of her age.†

## SIXTH GENERATION.

JOHN KENT, eldest son of CEPHAS and HANNAH, married LUCY SYKES, but at what date does not appear.

They had children as follows:

JOHN KENT.

JUBA KENT.

LUCY KENT.

RHODA KENT.

CLARINDA KENT.

JOHN KENT, as before recorded, was born October 31, 1749, and died at Dorset, Vermont, June 4, 1849, aged 99 years, 7 months, and 5 days.‡ His wife, LUCY was born about 1751, and died February 11, 1813, in her 62d year.

I greatly regret that all efforts to obtain the record of births, etc., of this family have failed.

\*Thompson's "Vermont Gazetteer," under head of "Dorset."

†I am indebted for this part of the record to LUCY E. KENT, of Dorset, Vermont.

‡A very interesting sketch of this venerable centennarian, Deacon JOHN KENT, may be found in Sprague's "American Pulpit," under the name of "William Jackson," of the Congregational Pulpit.

## SEVENTH GENERATION.

JOHN KENT, eldest son of JOHN and LUCY, married MARTHA LIVINGSTON, December 1, 1791.

Their children were the following:

SYLVIA KENT, (our mother) born in Dorset, Vt., October 26, 1792.

BUSHNELL KENT, died April 10, 1849.

CHARLES KENT, born March 27, 1797, and died October 23, 1870.

OLIVIA KENT, died at an early age.

MARTHA KENT, born in Dorset, Vt., April 14, 1804.

MARIA KENT, died in early childhood, at Dorset.

SEMANTHA KENT, died in her fifteenth year, at Milton, Vt.

JOHN KENT, died at Milton, Vt., aged 18 months.

LUCY KENT, born October 26, 1813; died in Richford, Waushara County, Wis., October 16, 1874.

JOHN KENT died in the town of Holland, Orleans county, Vt., on the 5th of April, 1849. The family moved from Dorset to Milton, Vt., probably in 1809, and later to the town of Holland.

MARTHA LIVINGSTON KENT died at Laporte, Lorain county, Ohio, in 1845, aged 74 years.

[For sketch of our mother, SYLVIA KENT, see page 31.]

CHARLES KENT married EUNICE GREEN, February 5, 1824. EUNICE was born January 24, 1802, and died July 21, 1846.

They had children as follows:

SILAS K. KENT, born November 16, 1824.

LUCIUS M. KENT, born October 20, 1826.

SALLY M. KENT, born March 14, 1828; died January 27, 1830.

ORVILL G. KENT, born February 20, 1830; died February 19, 1831.

CASPER B. KENT, born March 8, 1832; killed in battle before Petersburg, Virginia, June 16, 1864.

M. P. KENT, born September 14, 1835.

LORINDA A. KENT, born January 17, 1838.

BETSEY ANN M. KENT, born February 25, 1840.

ELLEN J. KENT, born September 27, 1842.

The family early settled in the town of Worcester, Vermont, where the surviving members now mostly reside.

This information has been kindly furnished by M. P. KENT, of Worcester,



from data furnished him by LYMAN BUSHNELL KENT, of Hardwick, Vermont, a son of BOSTWICK KENT.

The family of CHARLES KENT furnished four sons and three sons-in-law to the defense of the country during the late rebellion.

MARTHA KENT, November 6, 1826, was married to ALVAH RUBLEE, in Milton, Vermont.

The family removed for a time to Lower Canada, returning thence to Vermont, and in 1840, to Wisconsin Territory, settling in Sheboygan county.

Mr. RUBLEE was born in Berkshire, Vermont, February 23, 1802, and died in Sheboygan, Wisconsin, about 1843. Their children were the following:

BYRON RUBLEE, born April 2, 1828; died May 1, 1828.

HORACE RUBLEE, born in Berkshire, Vt., August 19, 1830.

WILLIAM S. RUBLEE, born July 13, 1832; died August 19, 1834.

EMELINE J. RUBLEE, born in St. Armand, Canada, February 16, 1836.

CATHARINE B. RUBLEE, born August 6, 1838; died September 11, 1856.

JANE L. RUBLEE, born in Sheboygan, Wis., August 20, 1842.

After the death of Mr. Rublee, MARTHA married ADONIKAN FARROW, April 10, 1845. They settled at Sheboygan Falls. Two children were born of this marriage:

CHARLES FARROW, born February 27, 1846.

GEORGE FARROW, born August 28, 1851; died September 6, 1851.

Mr. FARROW was a native of Maine. Date and place of birth unknown.

About 1848, HORACE RUBLEE commenced learning the trade of printer in the office of the *Wisconsin Argus*, at Madison. He was among the first students at the State University, and after some two or three years attendance, during most of which time he was engaged in writing for the press, in 1852 became chief editor of the *State Journal*, associated with David Atwood, under the firm name of Atwood & Rublee, which continued until 1869, when he withdrew, and was appointed Minister to Berne, Switzerland, where he has since resided. He was married about 1856, to Miss CATHARINE HOPKINS. They had three children: KATE, now aged 16; WILLIAM A., aged 14; GEORGE, aged 7; but the family record has not been accessible during the preparation of this work.

Mr. RUBLEE is noted as a powerful writer and brilliant scholar, admirably fitted to honor the country abroad in the capacity of its representative.

EMELINE J. RUBLEE, was born in St. Armand, Lower Canada, February 16, 1836. She married GEORGE T. COLE, and is now settled at Sheboygan

Falls, Wisconsin. They have two children: RUBLEE A., aged 13, and JESSIE M., aged 9.

JANE L. RUBLEE, born in Sheboygan, Wisconsin, August 20, 1842. Married JAMES VAN DERMADE. The family now reside in the village of Janesville, Wasecca county, Minnesota.

CHARLES FARROW now resides at Union City, Indiana, unmarried as far as known.

The following sketch was prepared by Capt. WILLIAM S. MUNROE, of Wautoma, Wis., from the family records:

LUCY, daughter of JOHN and MARTHA KENT, was born in the town of Milton, Vermont, October 26, 1813.

When quite young her parents moved to Berkshire, where she lived until her marriage, on the 4th of February, 1833, to SPENCER, third son of Jesse Munroe and Susanna Stone. The young couple took up their residence with Mr. Munroe's parents until September, 1834, when a farm was purchased in the town of Bolton. Here they remained until 1842, clearing up and improving their farm, which proved to be almost worthless from the fact that it consisted of about eight inches of soil immediately underlaid by a subsoil of solid rock. The farm was sold and another purchased in the town of Holland, Orleans county. This being unsatisfactory also, it was sold, and on the 2d day of September, 1846, the family started for the great west, then situated in Wisconsin. Traveling by way of the Erie canal and the lakes, they arrived at Sheboygan on the 20th, and took up their residence with Mr. Farrow, on a farm four miles west of Sheboygan. Here Mr. MUNROE remained for two years, conducting the farming operations upon Mr. Farrow's place.

In the fall of 1848, a new change of base was made, and the family found itself in a rented house in Sheboygan Falls, Mr. MUNROE being employed in one of the saw mills of the village. The family resided here nine years. By the industry and economy of the parents a snug home was purchased, and the older children given the advantages of a good common school education. In March, 1857, the family purchased a new farm in the town of Richford, Waushara county, their present home.

In the summer of 1858, Mrs. MUNROE had a run of fever which left her brain disordered, and she ever after remained in this condition, but able to attend to her household matters to a certain extent. In the fall of 1873, paralysis set in destroying the use of the left half of her body. In this condition she lived until October 16th, 1874, when she died, aged 61.

Mrs. MUNROE was a woman of more than ordinary amount of talent, and was noted for her frugality, industry, and good sense in the management of the humble home of her family, the resources of the family purse being such that to bring up her family of seven children required the tact and skillful generalship that would be necessary to conduct a military campaign. She was equal to the emergency, and the children were never hungry or naked, but look back and wonder by what magic this frail little woman succeeded in doing so much with so little. The general who wins great victories when supplied with all the appliances of war, is not entitled to the credit due to this brave help-meet of a poor laboring man. May her rest and peace in heaven be commensurate with her struggles with adversity, and her untiring energy and constant, cheerful labors here. Mr. MUNROE is still living, hale and hearty, aged 66. To these parents were born seven children: MARTHA, JAMES, WILLIAM, AMELIA, ELIZABETH, JOHN and GEORGE, A brief sketch of each of them follows:

MARTHA M. MUNROE was born in Bolton, Vermont, November 14, 1834. Upon arriving at a suitable age she engaged in teaching the public schools in Sheboygan county, until her marriage, July 4th, 1855, to CLARK L. SIBLEY, of Lima, Sheboygan county, in which town the family have since resided. Mr. SIBLEY was engaged in farming and carpentering for his business until within the past few years, since which he has been engaged in the sale of lumber at Waldo Station, on the M. & N. R. R. To them have been born five children, as follows:

CHARLES M. SIBLEY, born July 18, 1856.

KATIE SIBLEY, born April 23, 1859, died March 6, 1861.

MAY SIBLEY, born May 12, 1863.

WILLIAM S. SIBLEY, born September 26, 1865.

ANNA GRACE SIBLEY, born August 26, 1871.

JAMES H. MUNROE was born in Bolton, Vermont, January 1st, 1837. As soon as large enough to work, he commenced in the factories in his home village of Sheboygan Falls, making the best use of his time when not in school. When nineteen he had accumulated funds enough to purchase a farm of 100 acres in the town of Newton, Marquette county, and he at once set himself at work to improve it. On the 28th of July, 1861, he was married to PHEBE J. FIRMAN. The family remained upon the farm, meeting with but little success, until the spring of 1873, when he purchased a store in the little village of Richford, Waushara county, and has since been engaged in the mercantile business, meeting with good success. He has held several local offices. To him have been born four children, to wit:

CORA B. MUNROE, born January 22d, 1862.



JOHN McARTHUR MUNROE, born February 22d, 1864.

FRED MUNROE, born January 17th 1869.

ALICE E. MUNROE, born February 8th, 1871.

WILLIAM S. MUNROE was born July 21st, 1839, in the town of Bolton, Vermont. Enjoyed the benefits of the common schools of Sheboygan Falls until twelve years old, when he commenced to learn printing in the office of the Sheboygan Falls *Free Press*, J. A. Smith, proprietor. In this office he worked nearly a year, when the office was removed to Fond du Lac, and became the Fond du Lac *Commonwealth*. Mr. MUNROE then returned home and resumed his attendance upon the common schools. In May, 1854, he went to Madison to resume his trade, in the *State Journal* office. Here he completed his trade, and remained until the fall of 1860, when he went to Wautoma, having the reputation of a good mechanic and an inveterate worker. At Wautoma he became an employee of the *Waushara Argus*, Hon. W. C. Webb, proprietor. Except a few weeks vacation, he remained in this office until September 25th, 1861, when he enlisted in Company H, 16th Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry, Capt. H. G. Webb, commanding, and served with his company during the rebellion, being promoted through the various grades to that of captain of Co. I. The regiment was engaged in many of the most important battles and marches of the great war, commencing with Shiloh and ending with the collapse of the rebellion. Mr. MUNROE was mustered out at the expiration of his three years service at Savannah, Ga., December 21st, 1864, regretting that his health did not permit of longer service.

Upon his arrival home he purchased, April 1, 1865, one-half of the Wau-shara *Argus* office, and with Hon. C. H. Stowers for his partner, continued the business until October, when the purchase of Mr. Stowers' interest was made, and he became the sole proprietor. In the fall of 1866, he sold half of his office to Hon. R. L. D. Potter, of "Potter Law" notoriety. Failing health compelled the sale of the other half to Mr. P., December 8, 1867. He then removed with his family to Newton, Marquette county, and began the active life of a farmer. He remained here until August 1, 1872, when he again became proprietor of the *Argus*, in which business he is yet engaged.

December 20, 1865, he was married to CLARISSA A. CLARK, daughter of Daniel Clark and Polly Reed, of Reed's Corners, Ontario county, N. Y. To them have been born four sons and one daughter, to wit:

ALLEN C. MUNROE, born October 27, 1866, at Wautoma.

REED S. MUNROE, born Nov. 6, 1867, at Wautoma.

JENNIE MUNROE, born August 28, 1869; died September 18, 1871.

WILLIAM R. MUNROE, born June 2, 1872.

An unnamed twin brother of the last, died June 2, 1872.



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MARY AMELIA MUNROE, born in Holland, Vermont, June, 1844, died at Sheboygan Falls, November, 1849.

ANN ELIZABETH MUNROE, was born in the town of Sheboygan, Wisconsin, Nov. 24, 1848; Married October 13, 1866, to HOSEÁ W. ROOD, a teacher by profession. The family are now residing at Hancock, Waushara county. To them have been born three children, to wit:

LOUIS P. H. ROOD, born July 17, 1867.

MINNIE ROOD, born August 11, 1869; died September 11, 1869.

IDA LILLIAN ROOD, born October 11, 1870.

JOHN B. MUNROE was born in Sheboygan Falls, November 7, 1851. Has enjoyed such school privileges as are afforded in the country, and has not married or settled into any particular business.

GEORGE KENT MUNROE was born in Sheboygan Falls, July 28, 1856. He has acquired a good common school education. Was married August 6th, 1874, to ZILPHA, daughter of Amos T. Bishop, and has a daughter not named. Mr. MUNROE is engaged in farming the paternal acres in Richford.

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Of the KENTS generally, as far as known personally or by repute, I most cordially endorse the conclusions of a distinguished and eminent gentleman of the name, who has embodied much in a sentence. He says: "I think there are very few families of equal number who have given to the world a larger proportion of industrious, intelligent, virtuous, and useful Christian men and women." To this I would add, that none of the ancient families of America can show a worthier or better record of unselfish patriotism, or of higher devotion to human liberty and the best interest of their country. Their names are found upon the rolls of nearly every battle field for a period of nearly two centuries and a half, as well as in the halls of legislation—in the pulpit; in the press; at the bar; upon the bench; and at the head of our highest educational institutions. They came of a sturdy stock, fitted to aid in the foundation of a mighty empire, and have well performed their part. The good seed they have sown will not perish while the country holds its rank among the list of great, free, and independent nations.



## CONCLUSION.

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The compiler of this work, in justice to himself, desires to say a few words by way of general explanation.

The original purpose was the publication of a mere record of the western families of our name, and in our line, which, it was supposed, could all be compassed in about twenty pages. In preparing this, it was discovered that there was an ancestral record reaching back several generations; and this fact led to an enlargement of the plan. Investigations into that field met with unexpected success. The family genealogy on the side of both father and mother was found to date back to the year 1700 at least—of which evidence was speedily found. This led to still further and more protracted investigation, which ended in tracing the ancestry of both sides to the original emigrants to America, beyond which neither interest nor curiosity was felt.

This volume, small as it is, represents very much more research and labor than a casual reader might suspect. In its preparation, in addition to correspondence, scores of volumes of genealogical and historical evidence have been examined. Fortunately, the wisdom, intelligence, and patriotism of New England has embalmed early family annals in many of its public documents for a period of about one hundred years after the landing of the Pilgrim Fathers, so that there is a mine of reliable data at the command of the diligent investigator. These are indeed invaluable. Without them the family histories of America would be little better than a blank. It is to them I am indebted for the earliest reliable traces of our ancestral line.

This work is not as complete as its compiler had desired to make it, and yet, as a whole, he feels satisfied of its general accuracy. Family genealogy, for long periods, does not admit of positive demonstration. The most that can be expected is a strong probability. Descent is inferred, in some cases, from the action of both parents and children—such as the transfer of property without valuable consideration, wills, bequests, and other conveyances in the form of gifts, which can reasonably be explained only on the ground of

natural and close relationship. In such cases the word "probably" is used in describing the connection—as that "John was probably the son of John." This is the best evidence the case admits of, and though not positive, may be considered as in the highest degree reasonable and natural.

If it shall hereafter be demonstrated, then, that mistakes in this respect have actually been made, the charitable reader will assign them to the true cause. The records of some of our ancestors have disappeared so far as dates of birth, etc., are concerned, and cannot now be found. The aim has been absolute accuracy, and time and means have not been spared to insure that end. If incorrect in any respect the error must be charged to unreliable testimony. We have earnestly desired to transmit only the truth to our children; and this little work, on the subject to which it relates, is the highest expression in our power to furnish it to them.

In this age of books and printing, it would be wise for each generation in a family line, at something like regular periods, to publish its record as an addition to that of its ancestry, and thus preserve the genealogical chain unbroken. The greatest problem of the future in America, is the mixture of nationalities of the Caucassian race, and the type of man and womanhood that will ultimately result from this new condition. No nation of the past has ever had opportunity for so grand a physiological test on so great a scale. What centuries may produce, will in time be matter for profound study. Up to the seventh generation our families have a descent that may be pronounced purely English. Already, in a natural order, this is changing. If these our annals shall survive the coming century, the compiler of the next "centennial record," if philosophically inclined, will doubtless have, to some extent at least, a new social problem before him, as applied to our descendants.

Moreover, on the score of durability and economy, the printed book must be esteemed much more valuable and useful than the most costly monument. Ordinarily, it will outlast the finest marble, and preserve the memory of generations, after individual tombstones have crumbled to dust. The record needed, is a living one. Families can never cease to feel an interest in their ancestry. The volume in the library, with its family record added to the past, must ever be held to some extent an object of veneration—a precious memorial that will be cherished and preserved. The expense of such a publication, compared with its intrinsic value, is scarcely worthy of consideration, especially when distributed among many relatives, mutually and equally interested in the work.

If any relatives shall complain of seeming neglect in this production, let them reflect that to wander from the direct ancestral line, to any considerable extent, would have required a large volume. The TENNEYS and



KENTS are now a multitude of themselves. A complete record would fill a Directory.

The author, desires to return to all with whom he has had correspondence, his warmest thanks for the kind and cordial manner in which they have aided his endeavors. For the first time in his fifty-five years of life, he has been addressed as "dear cousin." The circumstance makes him regret an isolation that has deprived him of a personal acquaintance with branches of the family so worthy and deserving, whom it would have been a great pleasure to have known.

Apologetically, it ought to be added, that this volume has been prepared at intervals, amidst pressing official duties. New evidences, discovered from time to time, called for the re-writing of parts several times. This will explain what may be deemed repetition, and lack of harmony and proportion in the plan. Naked lists of names and dates, disconnected from cotemporaneous events happening in each generation, fail to fix the attention or impress the mind. For this reason only, brief historical sketches have been inserted, and not from any sentiment of vanity or vain glory. Our ancestry, in their way, have written their record in the history of the continent—and it is in every sense, useful and honorable—one to be proud of, but not boastful over. They, like ourselves, were a pioneer race. It is a pleasure to believe that they have not lived in vain.

A few typographical errors will doubtless be discovered. Except in dates, the reader will easily correct them. In spite of all vigilance, mistakes of this kind will be found in every volume ever issued from the press.



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